

my friend
GANESHA

Ganesha

The Compassionate God



KIDS™

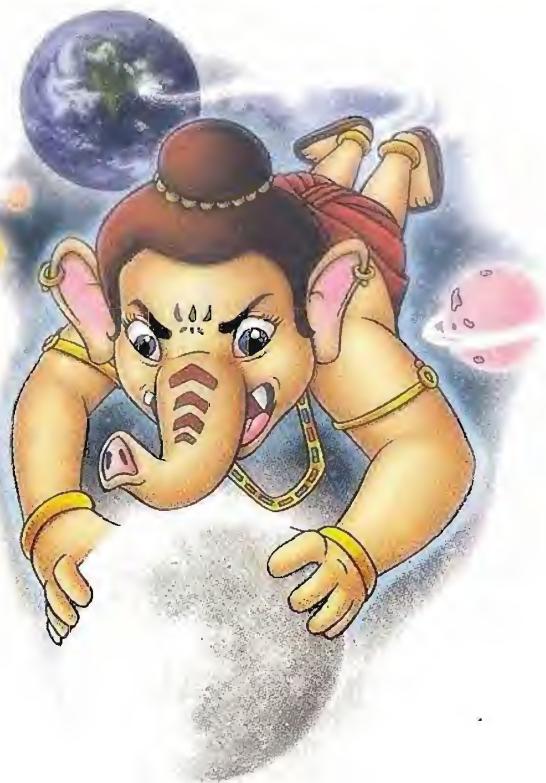
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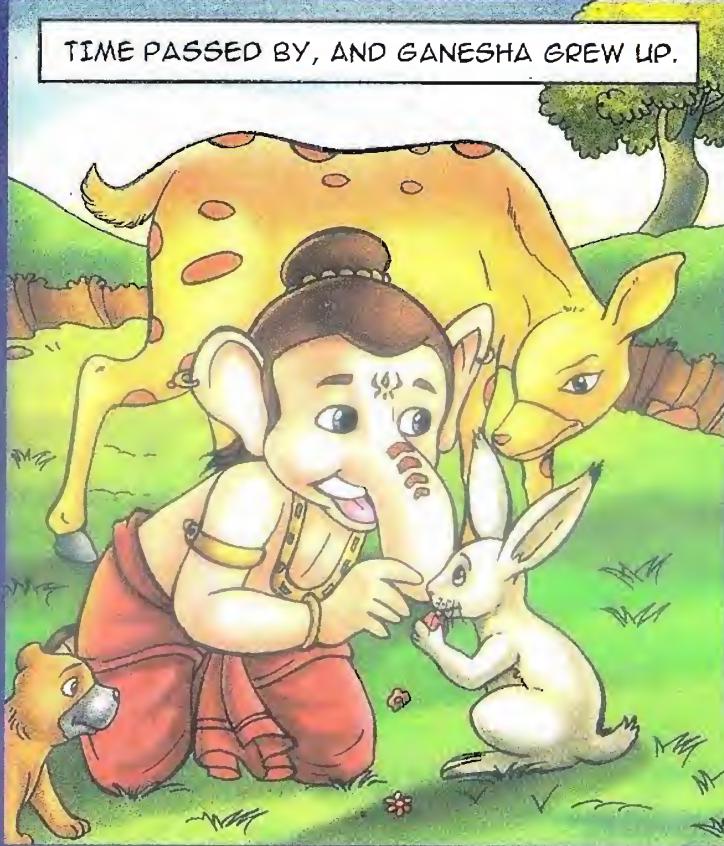
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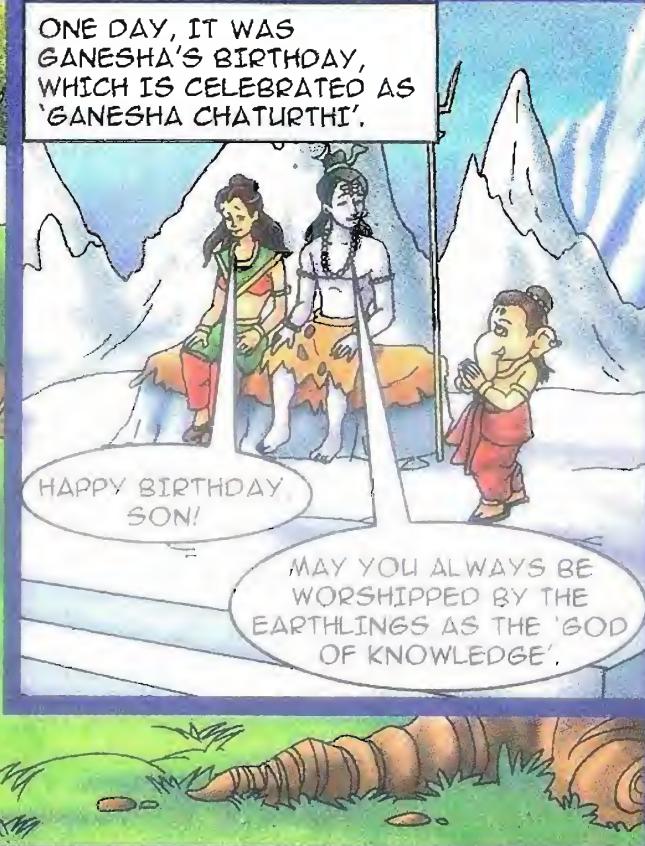
THIS IS THE STORY OF GANESHA WHOSE LIFE IS FULL OF INTRIGUING INCIDENTS.



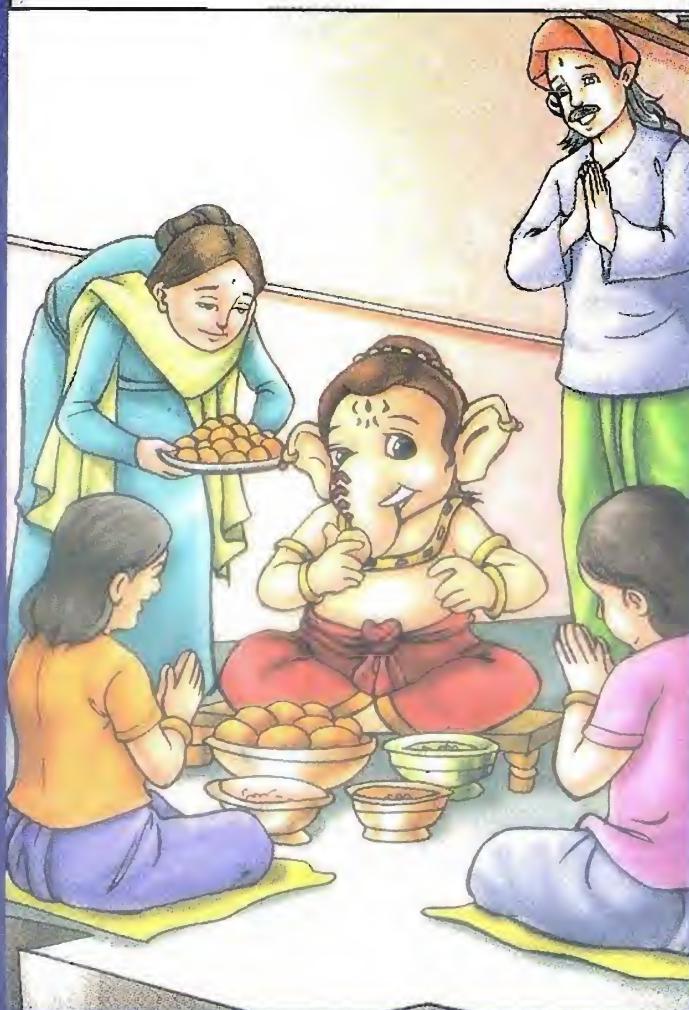
TIME PASSED BY, AND GANESHA GREW UP.



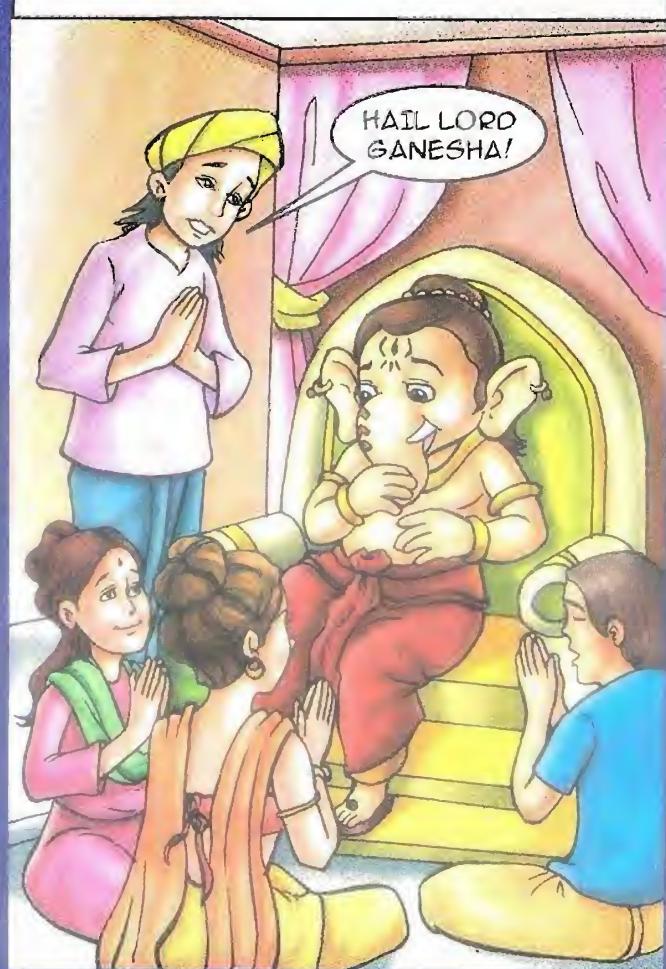
ONE DAY, IT WAS
GANESHA'S BIRTHDAY,
WHICH IS CELEBRATED AS
'GANESHA CHATURTHI'.



THAT DAY, GANESHA WENT TO MANY OF HIS DEVOTEES' HOUSES AND WAS OFFERED HIS FAVORITE FOOD-SWEETS!



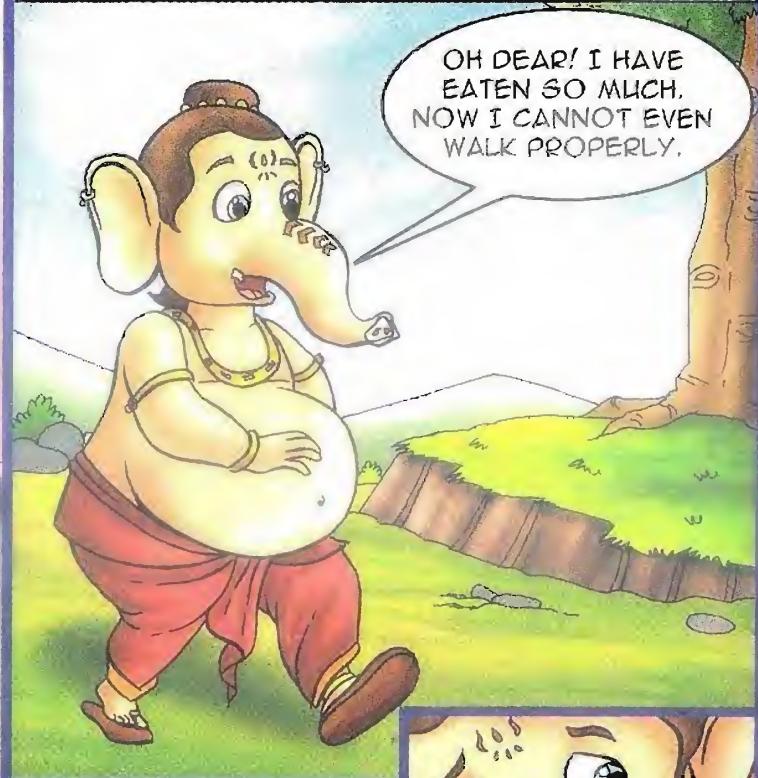
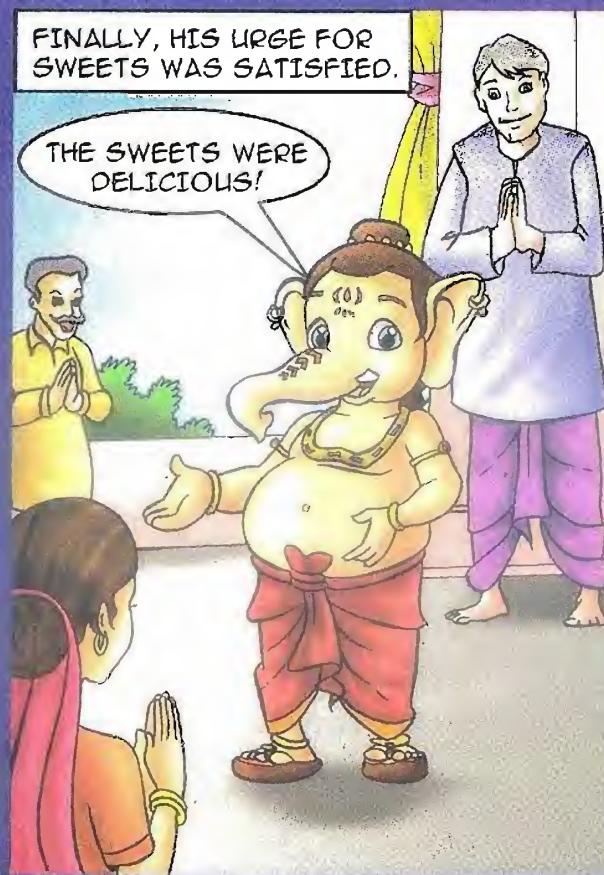
HE VISITED THE HOUSES OF HIS DEVOTEES, ONE AFTER ANOTHER, WHERE HE CONSUMED A LOT OF SWEETS WHICH WERE OFFERED TO HIM.



FINALLY, HIS URGE FOR SWEETS WAS SATISFIED.

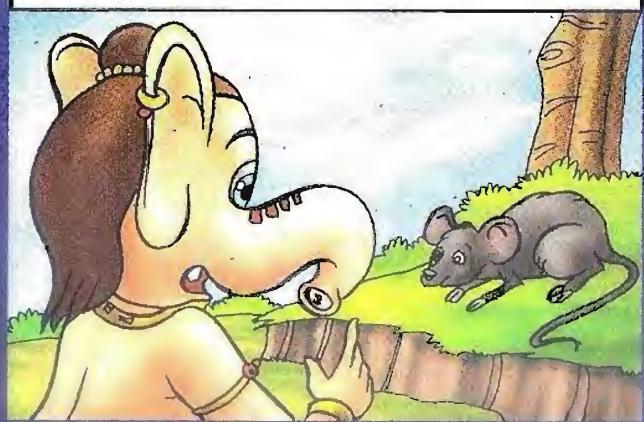
BUT AS A RESULT OF THIS OVERINDULGENCE, HE FELT RATHER UNCOMFORTABLE.

THE SWEETS WERE DELICIOUS!

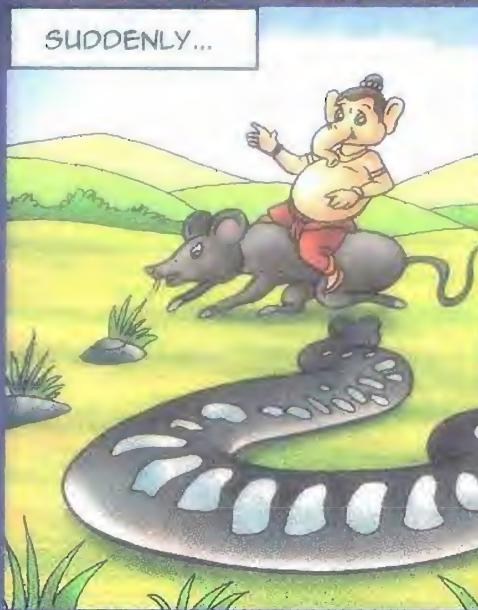


WEARILY, HE CAME TO HIS COMPANION, THE MOUSE.

HE SAT ON IT AND STARTED FOR HOME.



SUDDENLY...

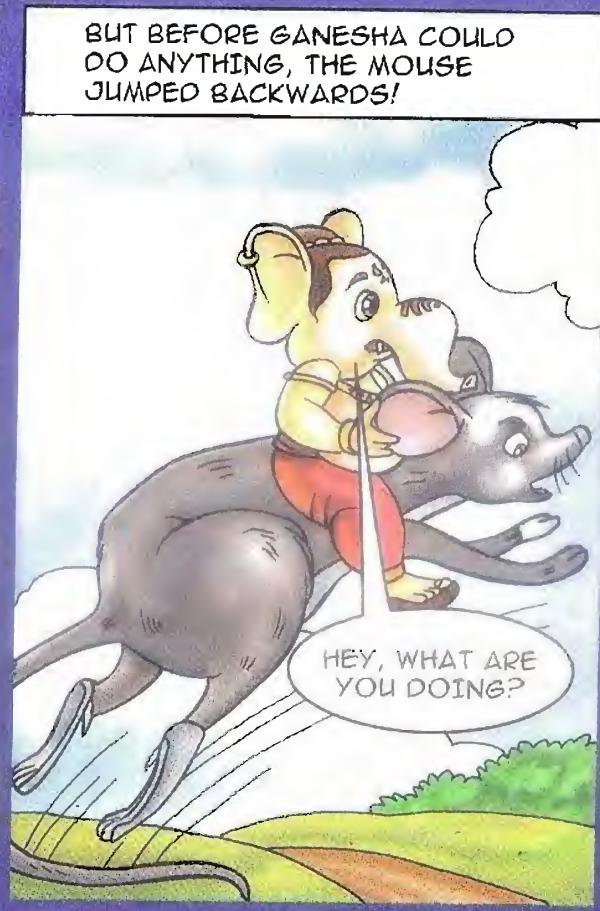
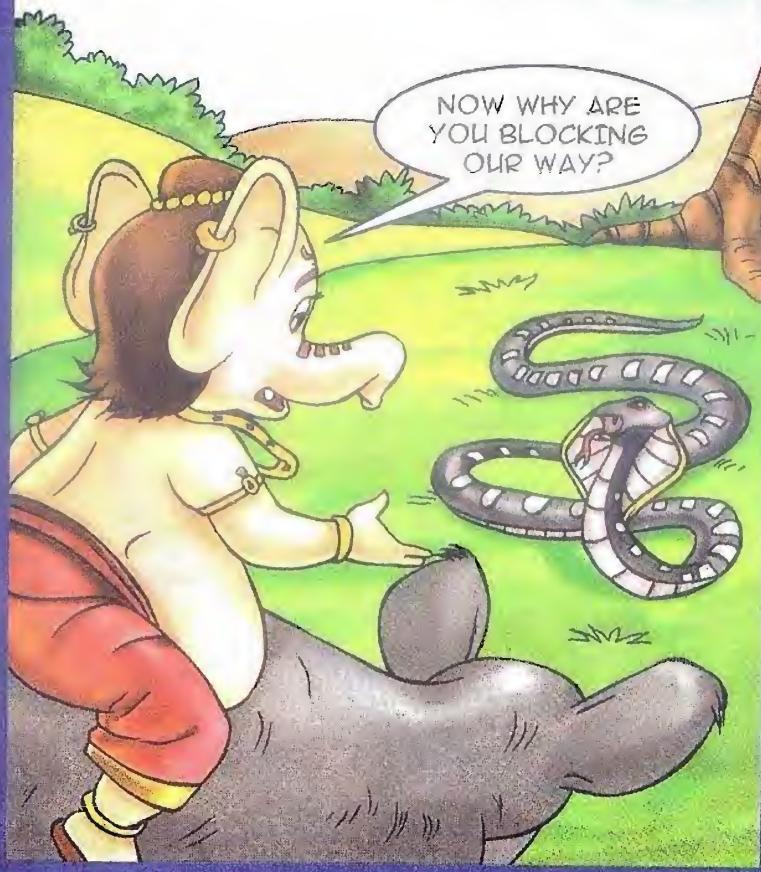


A BIG, BLACK SNAKE CAME IN HIS WAY.

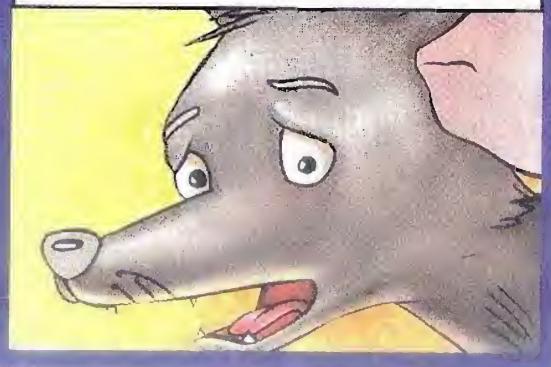
SOON, THE SNAKE BLOCKED THEIR WAY AND...

NOW WHY ARE
YOU BLOCKING
OUR WAY?

BUT BEFORE GANESHA COULD
DO ANYTHING, THE MOUSE
JUMPED BACKWARDS!



THE MOUSE WAS TERRIFIED!

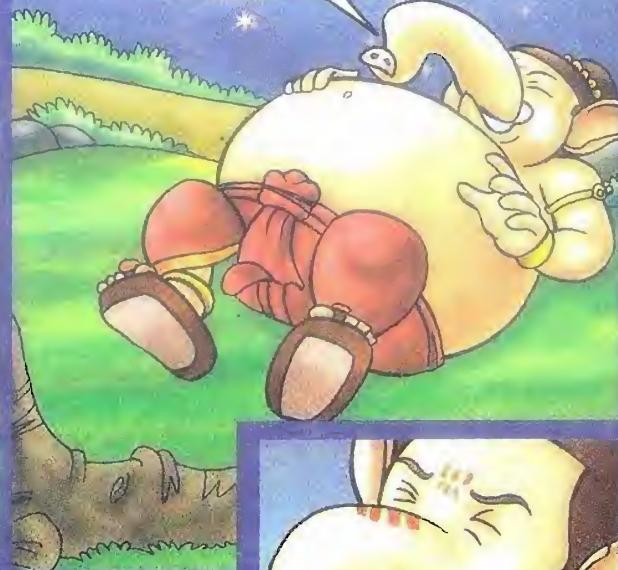


BUT THE MOUSE WAS DETERMINED TO RUN AWAY, AND SOON...

THE MOMENT GANESHA FELL DOWN ON THE GROUND, HIS HUGE STOMACH, WHICH WAS STUFFED WITH SWEETS, GOT UNSETTLED!

OHH!

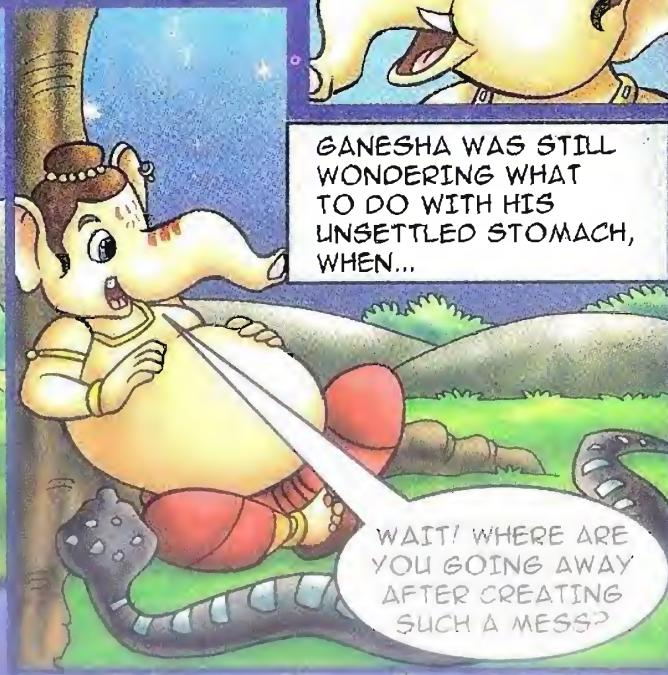
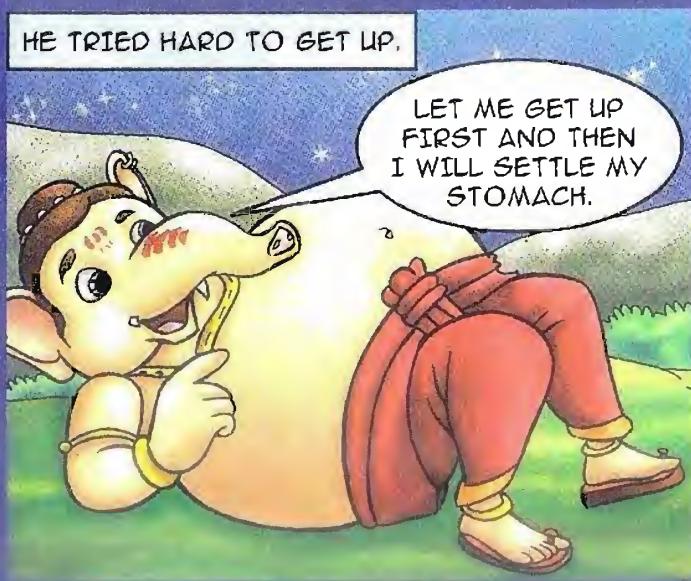
AAAHH!



HE TRIED HARD TO GET UP.

LET ME GET UP FIRST AND THEN I WILL SETTLE MY STOMACH.

GANESHA WAS STILL WONDERING WHAT TO DO WITH HIS UNSETTLED STOMACH, WHEN...

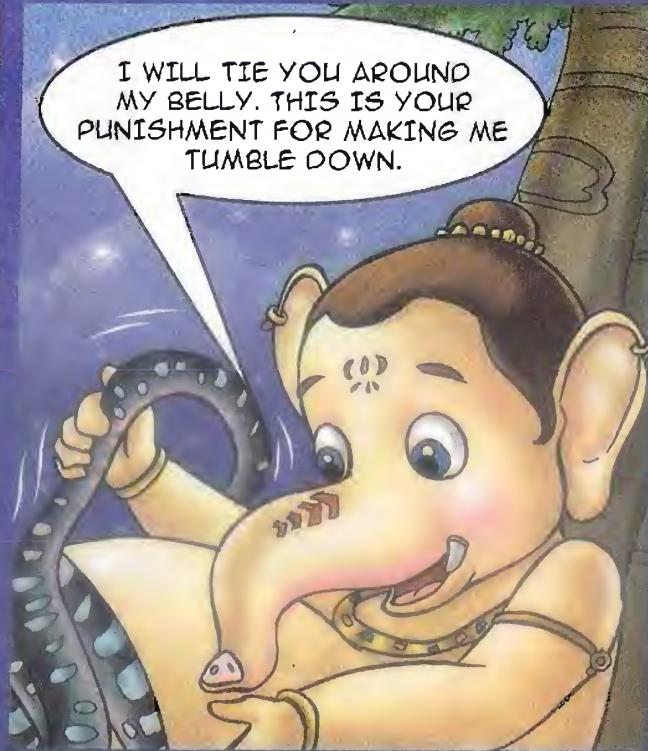
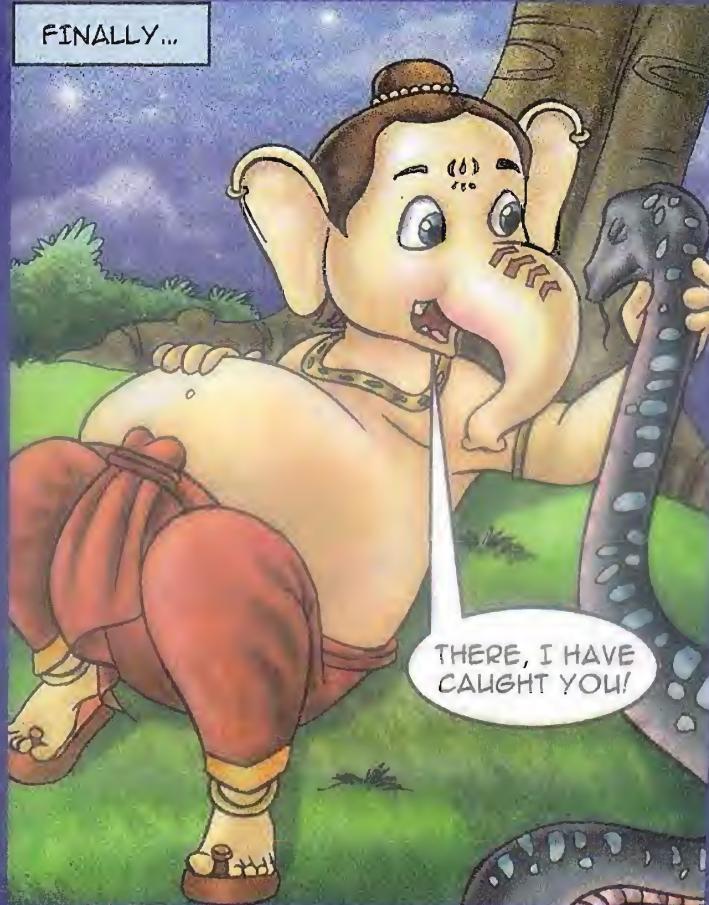


AND SO...

I WILL NOT LEAVE YOU

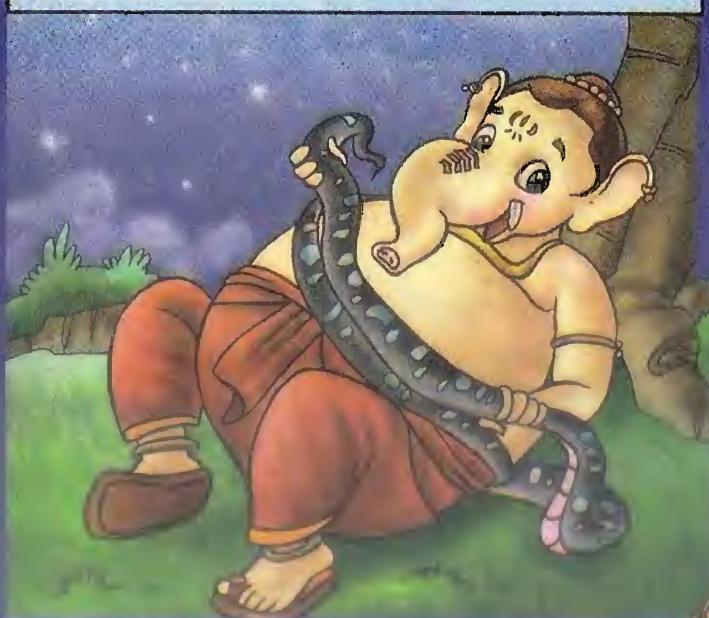


FINALLY...

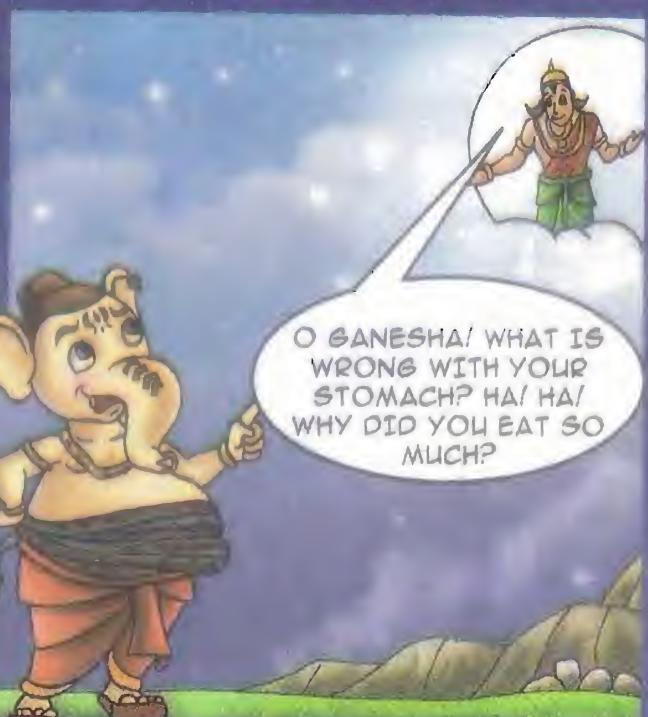
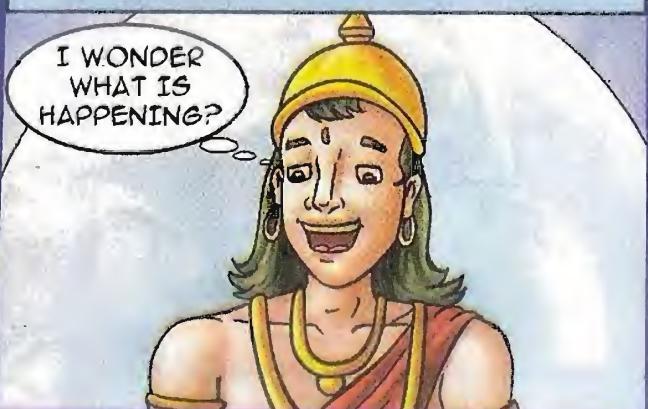


NOW, ALL THIS WAS WITNESSED BY THE MOON, WHICH WAS SHINING BRIGHT IN THE NIGHT SKY.

AND SO, GANESHA TIED THE SNAKE AROUND HIS STOMACH TO SETTLE IT BETTER.



OBSERVING THE MISERABLE PLIGHT OF GANESHA, HE COULD NOT CONTROL HIS LAUGHTER.



AT FIRST, GANESHA WAS A LITTLE EMBARRASSED.

THEN HE BECAME ANGRY.

HA! HA!
HA!

MOON! YOU DARE TO LAUGH AT ME?

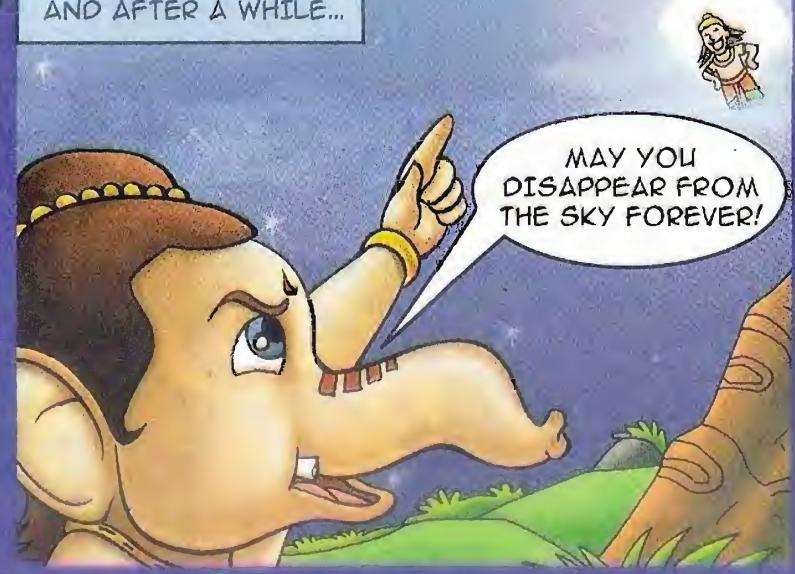


BUT, THE MOON DID NOT STOP LAUGHING. GANESHA GREW ANGRIER.

AND AFTER A WHILE...

MAY YOU DISAPPEAR FROM THE SKY FOREVER!

THAT VERY MOMENT, THE MOON DISAPPEARED FROM THE NIGHT SKY. DARKNESS SPREAD ALL AROUND.



BUT THE ABSENCE OF THE MOON MADE THE PEOPLE OF THE EARTH VERY UNHAPPY.

MEANWHILE, THE GODS WERE ALSO GRIEVED BY THE MOON'S TRUANCY.

WONDER WHY THE MOON IS NOT THERE IN THE SKY TODAY!

YES, YOU ARE RIGHT! THE NIGHT IS SO DULL AND DREARY.

ISN'T IT A PITY THAT GANESHA HAS CURSED THE MOON AND MADE IT DISAPPEAR?

YES, THE NIGHTS ARE SO GLOOMY!

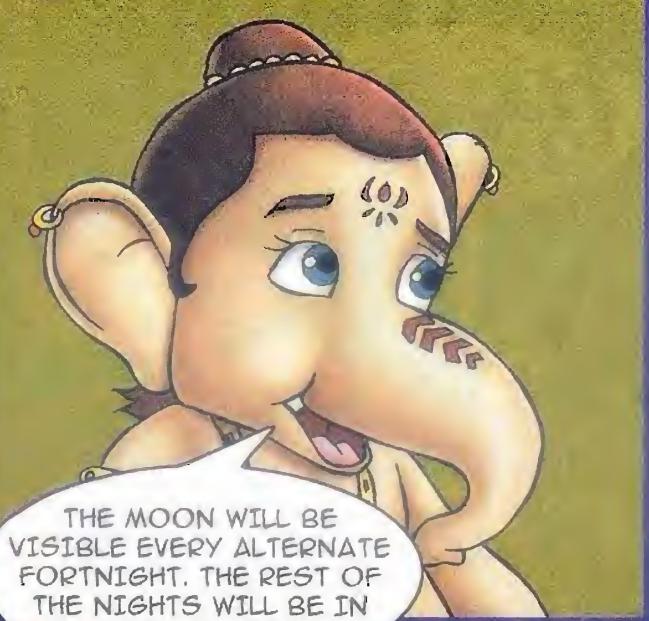
AFTER A LOT OF CONSULTATION, THE GODS DECIDED TO REQUEST GANESHA TO TAKE BACK HIS CURSE.

GANESHA, MY SON, WE HAVE COME TO MAKE A REQUEST.

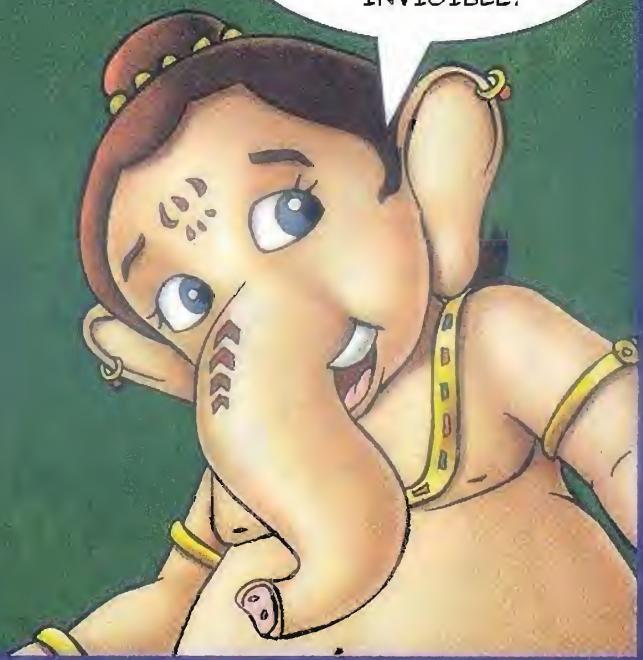
PLEASE TAKE BACK YOUR CURSE ON THE MOON, AS THE NIGHTS HAVE BECOME VERY DARK.

ALRIGHT, SINCE I CANNOT TAKE BACK MY CURSE, I WILL ALTER IT.

AND SO, GANESHA MODIFIED HIS CURSE A LITTLE.

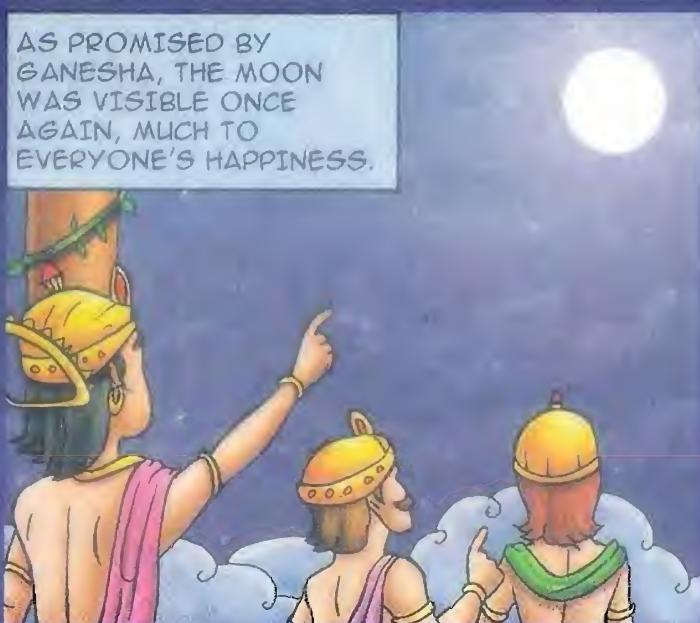


ONCE EVERY MONTH THE MOON WILL BE COMPLETELY INVISIBLE.



THE GODS WERE SATISFIED, AND SO THEY RETREATED TO HEAVEN.

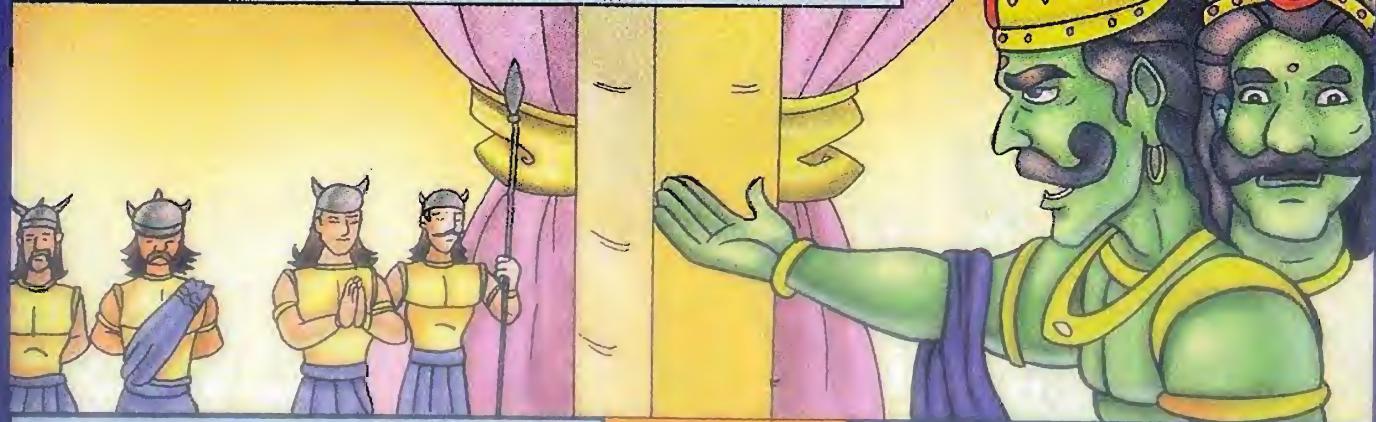
AS PROMISED BY GANESHA, THE MOON WAS VISIBLE ONCE AGAIN, MUCH TO EVERYONE'S HAPPINESS.



THE REAPPEARANCE OF THE MOON WAS A PLEASANT SURPRISE FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE EARTH TOO.



IN THOSE DAYS, THERE EXISTED A FIERCE DEMON CALLED RAVANA. HE WAS THE KING OF LANKA AND AN ARDENT DEVOTEE OF LORD SHIVA.



RAVANA WAS AN ARDENT WORSHIPPER OF LORD SHIVA.



SO, HE STARTED FOR KAILASH, LORD SHIVA'S ABODE ON THE SNOWY HIMALAYAS TO MEDITATE.

ONE DAY, RAVANA DECIDED TO ASK FOR A BOON FROM LORD SHIVA TO PROTECT HIS KINGDOM, LANKA.

I SHOULD PRAY TO LORD SHIVA TO GRANT ME THE BOON THAT MY KINGDOM LANKA SHOULD NEVER BE DESTROYED.



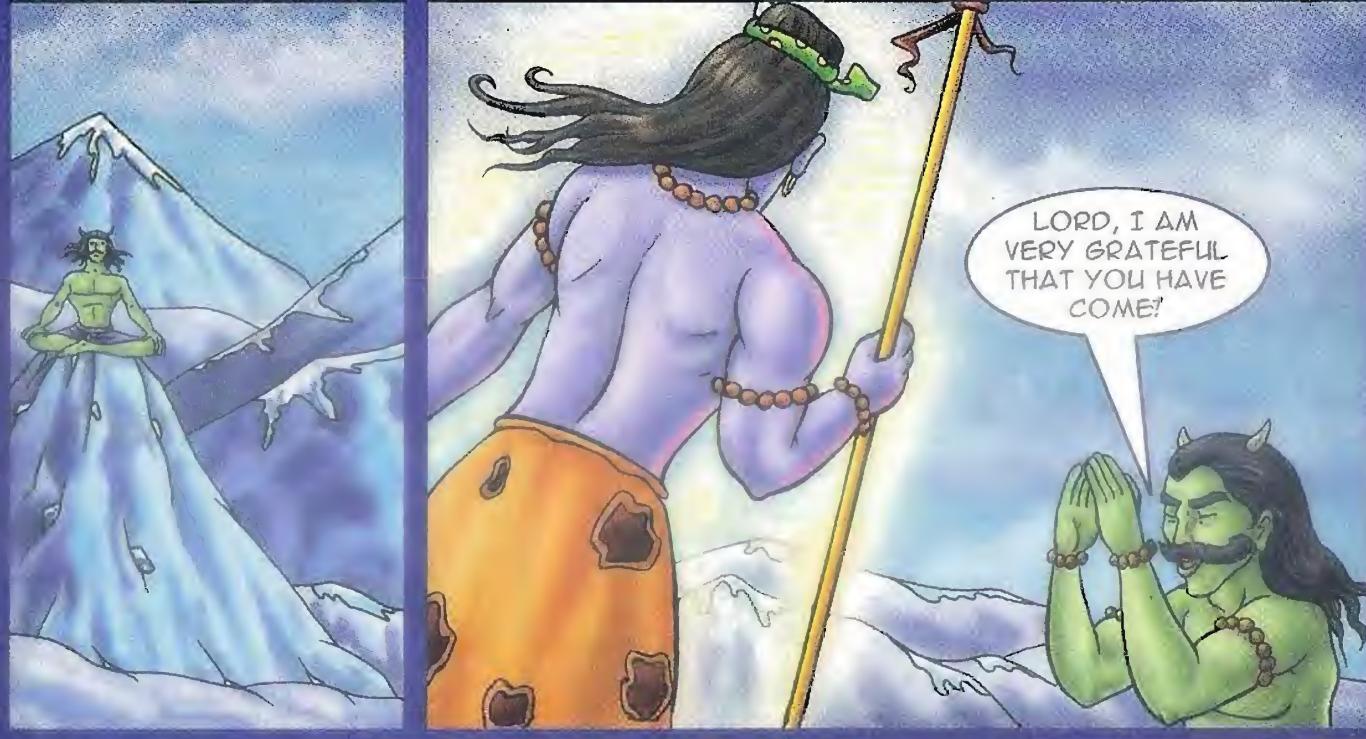
ON REACHING KAILASH...

HERE I'LL BEGIN MY MEDITATION TO PLEASE LORD SHIVA.



AND SO, RAVANA BEGAN TO MEDITATE.

AFTER A LONG PERIOD OF MEDITATION, LORD SHIVA WAS FINALLY PLEASED. AND...



LORD, I AM VERY GRATEFUL THAT YOU HAVE COME!



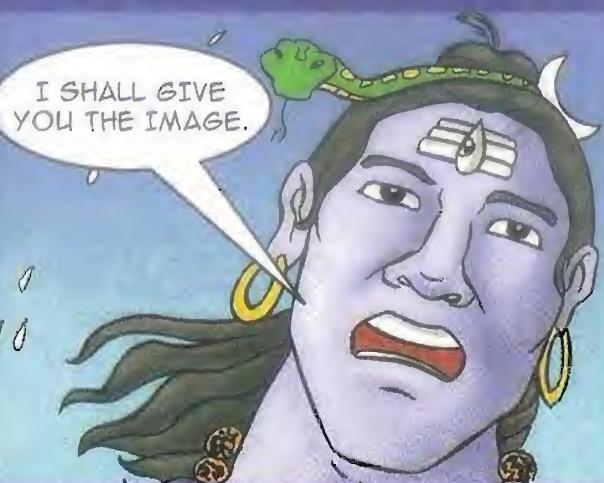
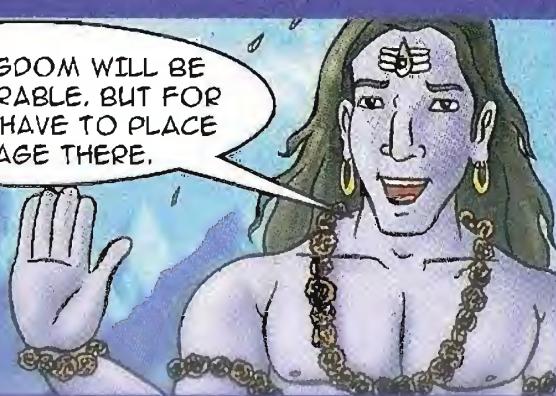
I AM VERY PLEASED WITH YOU! YOU MAY ASK FOR ANYTHING.

LORD, I WISH THAT MY KINGDOM LANKA SHOULD BECOME INDESTRUCTIBLE.

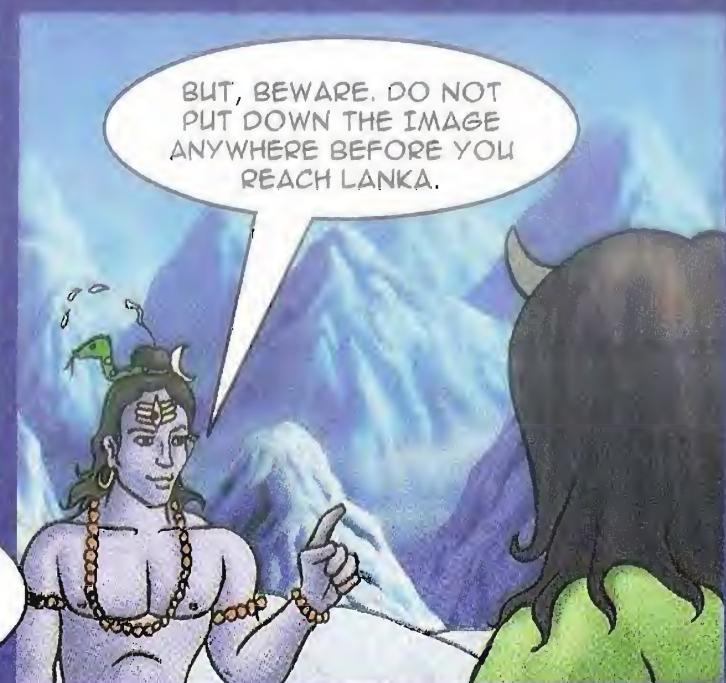
SO BE IT.
LANKA SHALL BE INVINCIBLE!

THOUGH LORD SHIVA BLESSED LANKA, HE ALSO PUT FORWARD A CONDITION.

YOUR KINGDOM WILL BE UNCONQUERABLE. BUT FOR THAT, YOU HAVE TO PLACE MY IMAGE THERE.

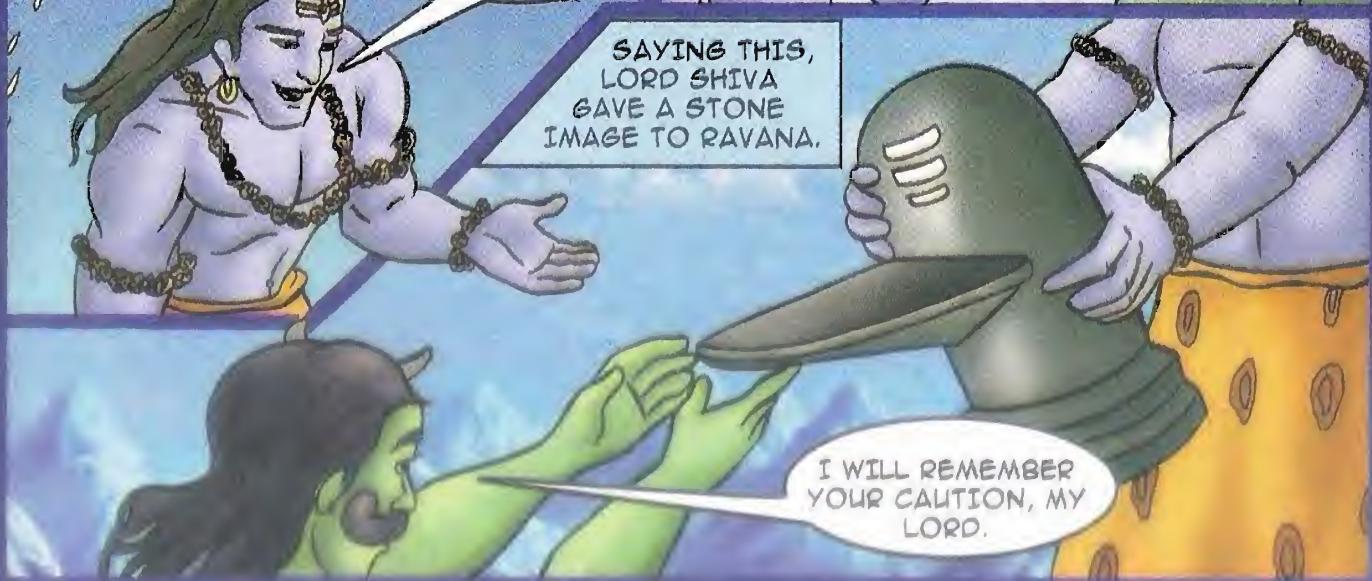


BUT, BEWARE. DO NOT PUT DOWN THE IMAGE ANYWHERE BEFORE YOU REACH LANKA.



IF YOU DO, I WILL NOT MOVE FROM THAT PARTICULAR PLACE.

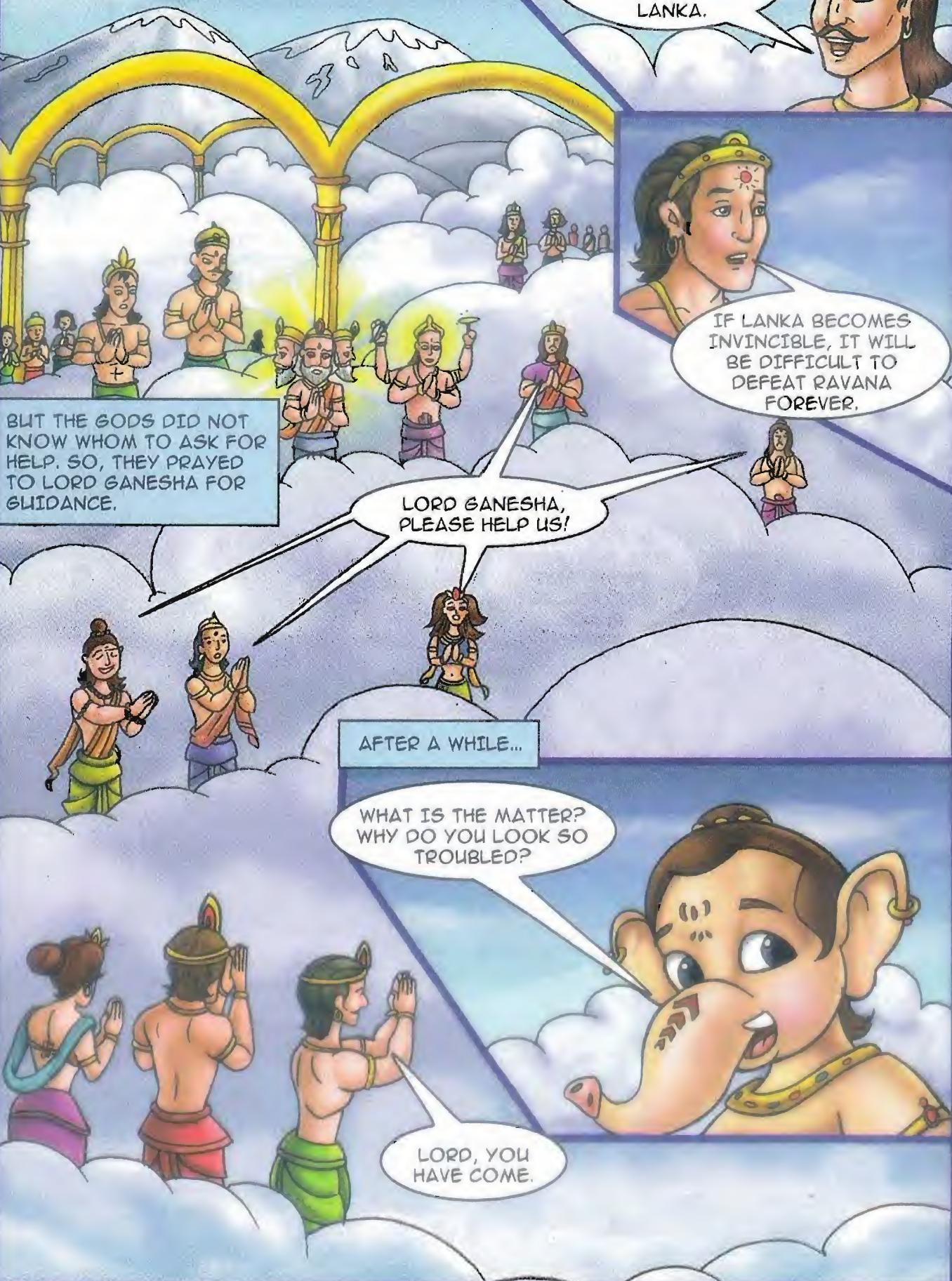
SAYING THIS, LORD SHIVA GAVE A STONE IMAGE TO RAVANA.



RAVANA STARTED HIS JOURNEY TOWARDS LANKA ON FOOT WITH THE STONE IMAGE.

MEANWHILE IN HEAVEN, THE GODS WERE WORRIED WITH THE BOON THAT LORD SHIVA HAD GRANTED RAVANA.

IT WILL BE DEVASTATING IF RAVANA SUCCEEDS IN CARRYING THE SHIVA LINGA TO LANKA.



LORD SHIVA HAS GIVEN A STONE IMAGE OF HIMSELF TO RAVANA, TO BE PLACED IN LANKA.

THIS BLESSED STONE STATUE, ONCE PLACED IN LANKA, WILL MAKE IT INVINCIBLE!

THIS MEANS WE HAVE TO STOP RAVANA FROM REACHING LANKA WITH THE IMAGE OF SHIVA.

BUT HOW, MY LORD?

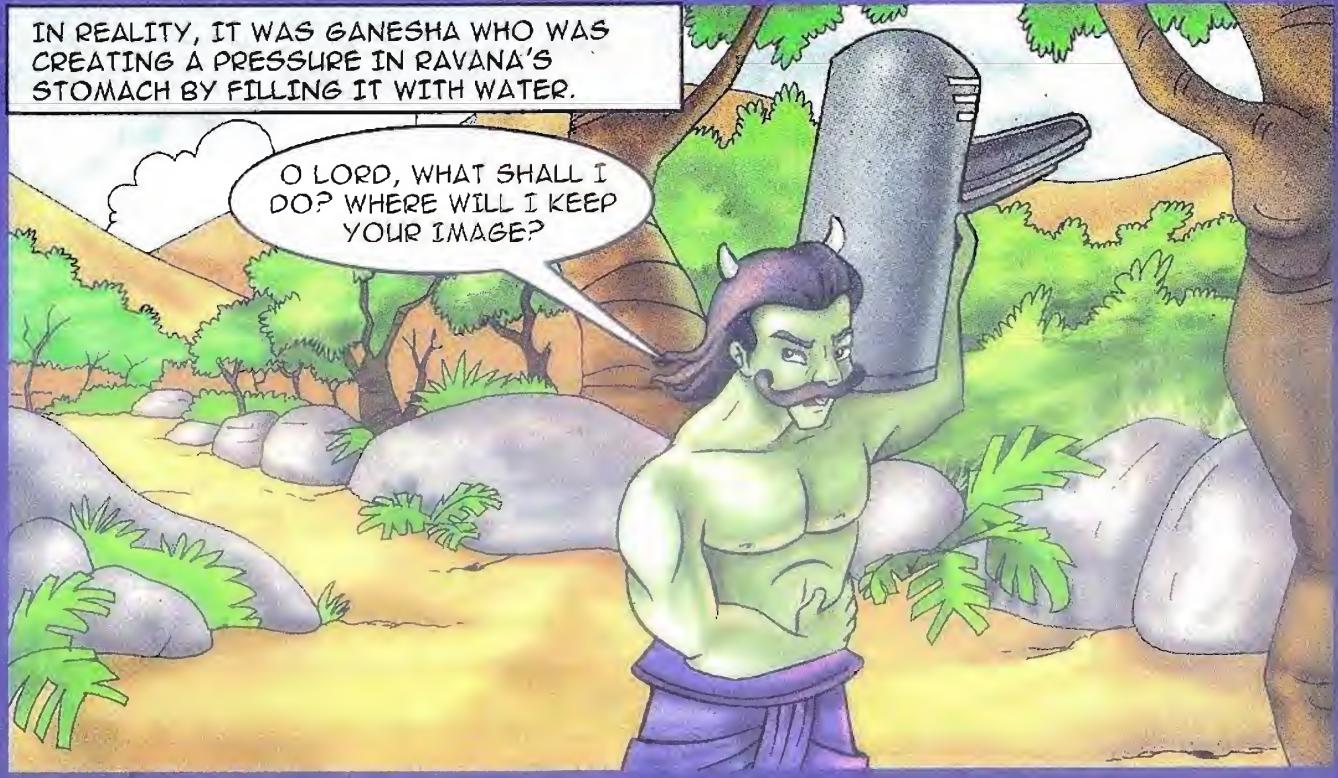
LEAVE THAT TO ME. RAVANA WILL NOT REACH LANKA WITH THE IMAGE OF SHIVA.

MEANWHILE, RAVANA TRAVELED FOR MANY DAYS. ONE DAY, WHEN HE WAS PASSING THROUGH A FOREST, HE FELT THAT HE HAD TO ANSWER THE CALL OF NATURE.

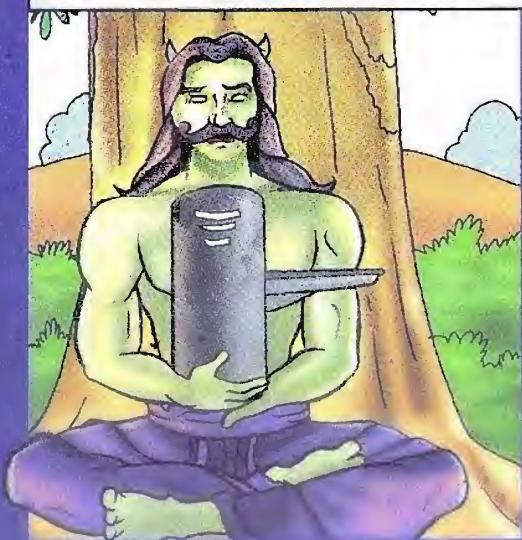
BUT HOW WILL I FULFILL MY NEED AS I CANNOT PUT THE STONE IMAGE ON THE GROUND!

IN REALITY, IT WAS GANESHA WHO WAS CREATING A PRESSURE IN RAVANA'S STOMACH BY FILLING IT WITH WATER.

O LORD, WHAT SHALL I DO? WHERE WILL I KEEP YOUR IMAGE?



RAVANA, WITH A LOT OF EFFORT TRIED TO CONTROL HIS NEED. HE DIVERTED HIS MIND BY THINKING OF HIS KINGDOM. BUT...



LORD, I AM NOT ABLE TO CONTROL MY NEED ANY MORE.



HIS URGENCY INCREASED BECAUSE GANESHA CONSTANTLY FILLED WATER INTO HIS STOMACH.

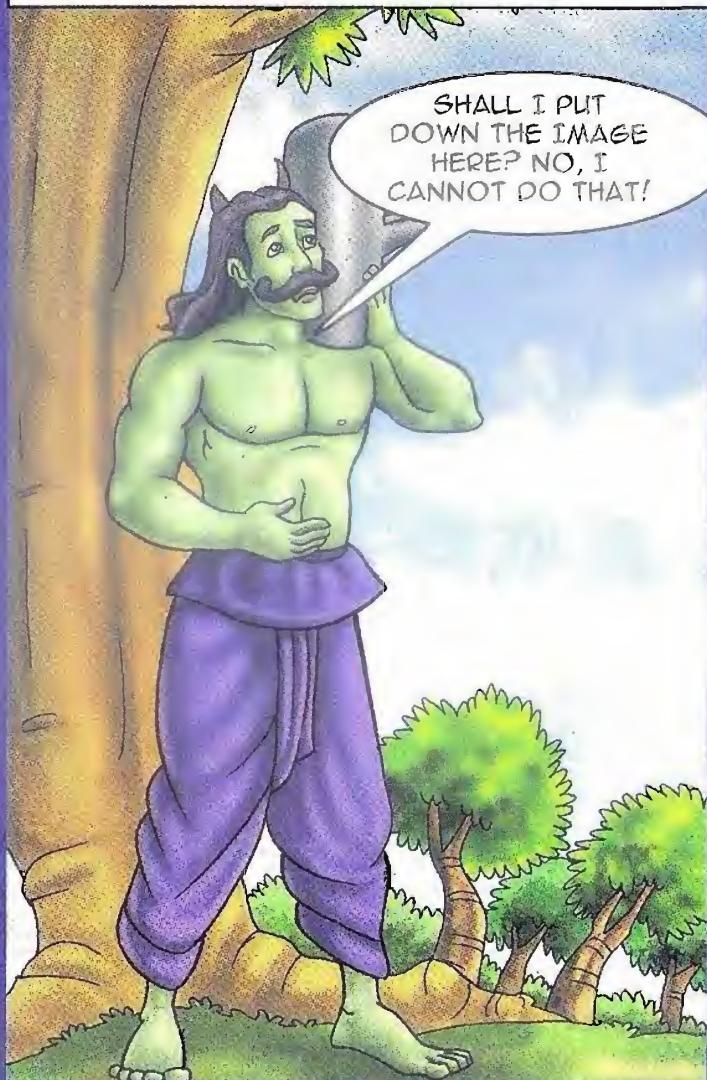
FINALLY...



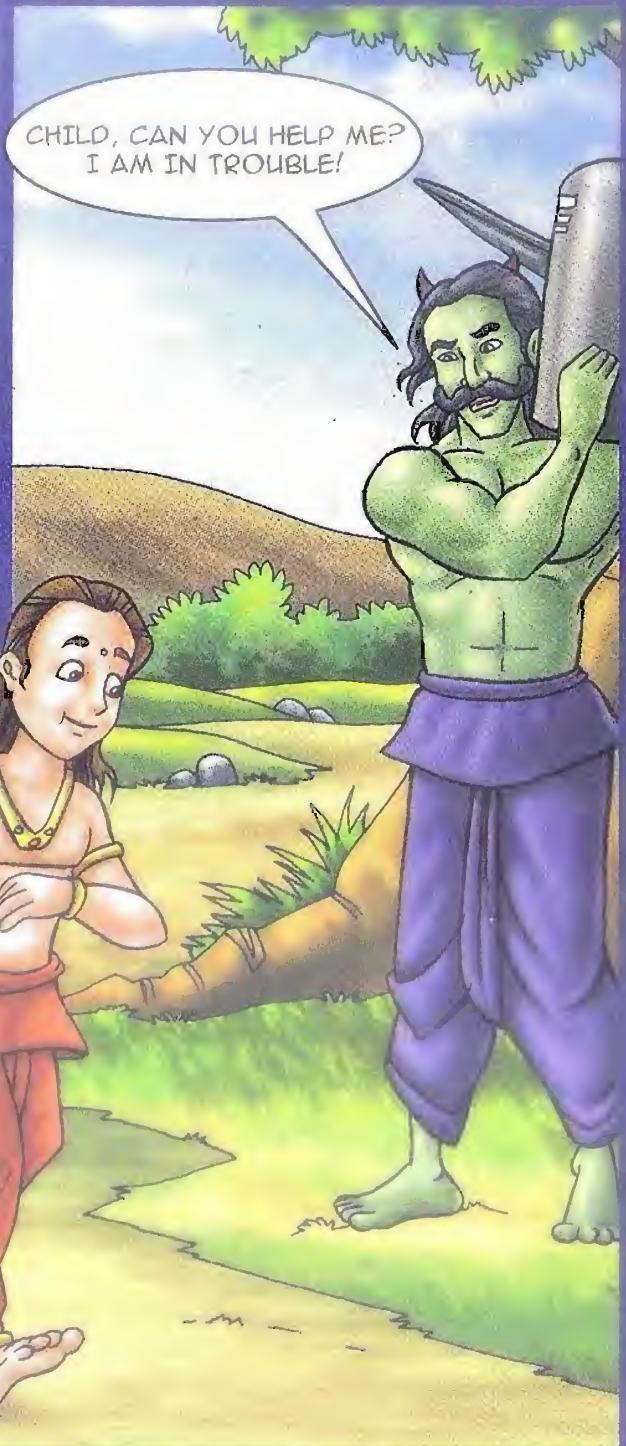
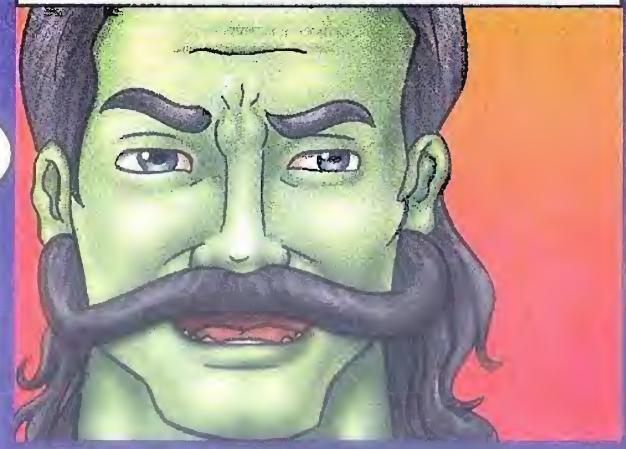
NO, THIS IS BECOMING UNBEARABLE I MUST DO SOMETHING



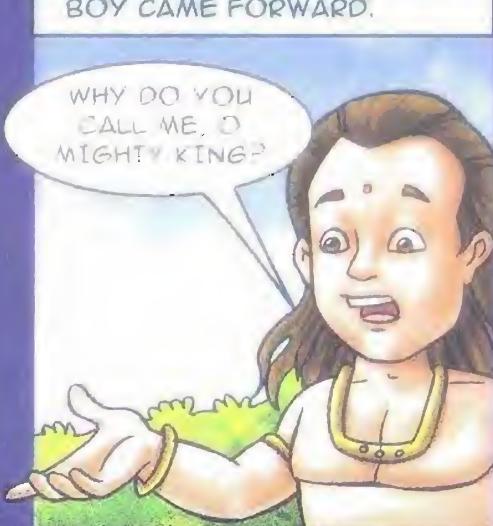
HENCE, HE GOT UP AND LOOKED FOR A SUITABLE PLACE TO RELIEVE HIMSELF.



SUDDENLY HE SAW A LITTLE BOY PASSING BY.



HEARING THIS, THE LITTLE BOY CAME FORWARD.



I AM RAVANA, THE KING OF LANKA. I AM CARRYING THIS IMAGE OF LORD SHIVA TO LANKA. BUT I NEED TO ANSWER NATURE'S CALL.

BUT HOW CAN I BE OF ANY HELP IN THIS MATTER?



YOUR MAJESTY,
MAY I HOLD THE
IMAGE FOR YOU?

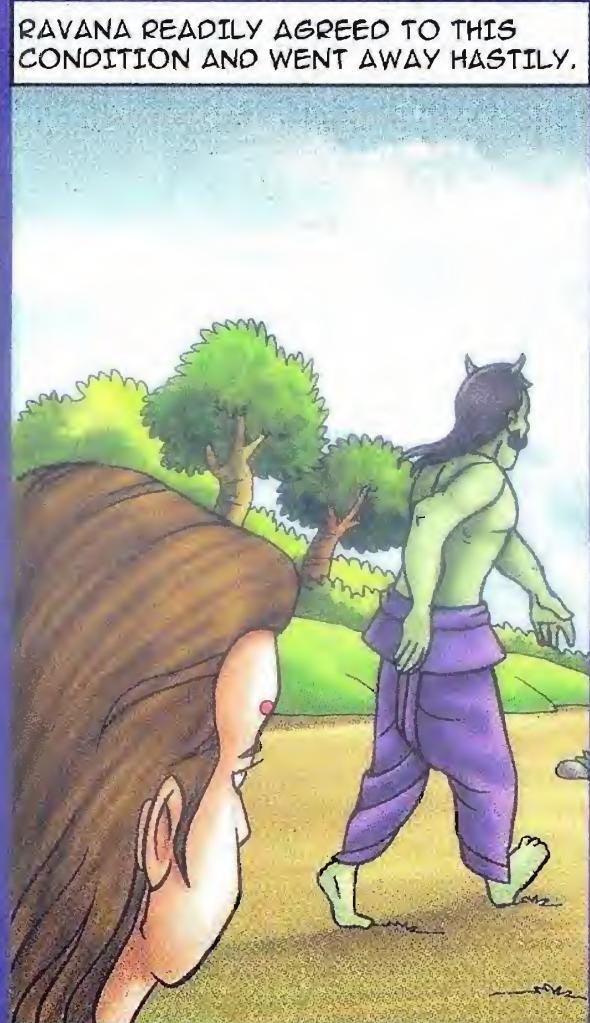
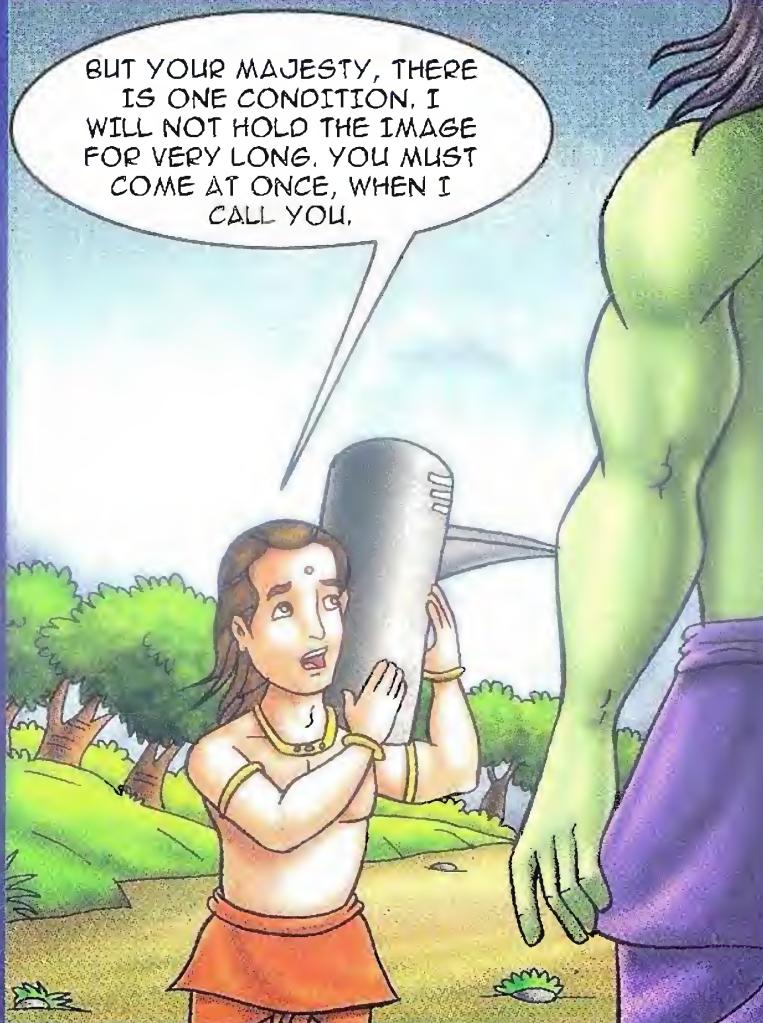
RAVANA WAS VERY PLEASED AT THIS.

I CANNOT PUT DOWN
LORD SHIVA'S IMAGE
HERE BUT I CAN
GIVE THE IMAGE TO
SOMEBODY TO HOLD IT
WHEN I GO.

THAT WILL BE
REALLY HELPFUL.

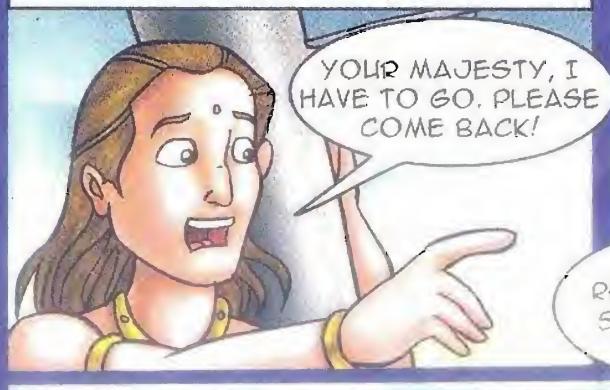
BUT YOUR MAJESTY, THERE IS ONE CONDITION. I WILL NOT HOLD THE IMAGE FOR VERY LONG. YOU MUST COME AT ONCE, WHEN I CALL YOU.

RAVANA READILY AGREED TO THIS CONDITION AND WENT AWAY HASTILY.



SINCE GANESHA HAD COME WITH THE PURPOSE OF THWARTING RAVANA'S INTENTION, HE BEGAN CALLING HIM AFTER JUST A SHORT WHILE.

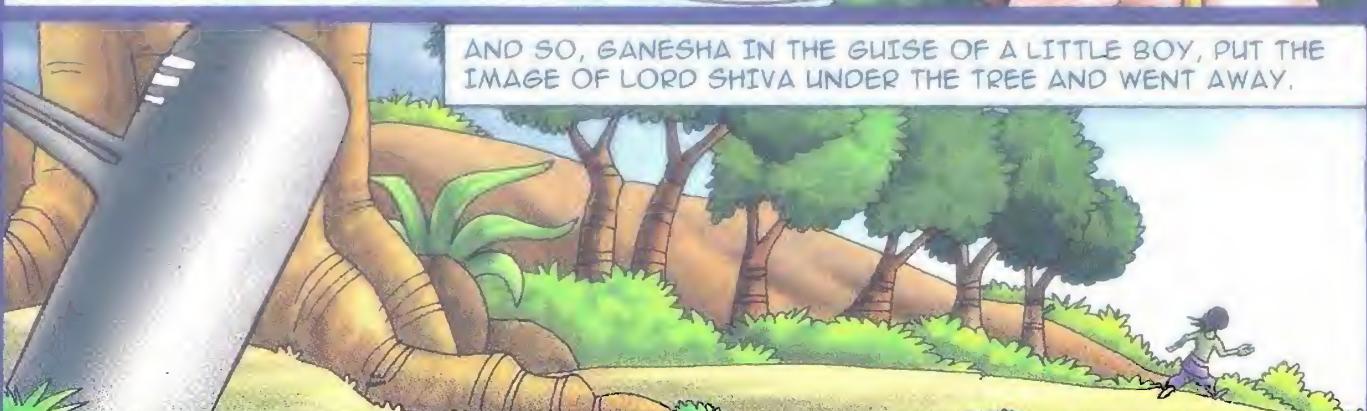
AS EXPECTED, RAVANA COULD NEITHER ANSWER THE CALL NOR COME BACK. SO...



RAVANA HAS NOT RETURNED AS AGREED, SO. I WILL PUT DOWN THE IMAGE AND GO.



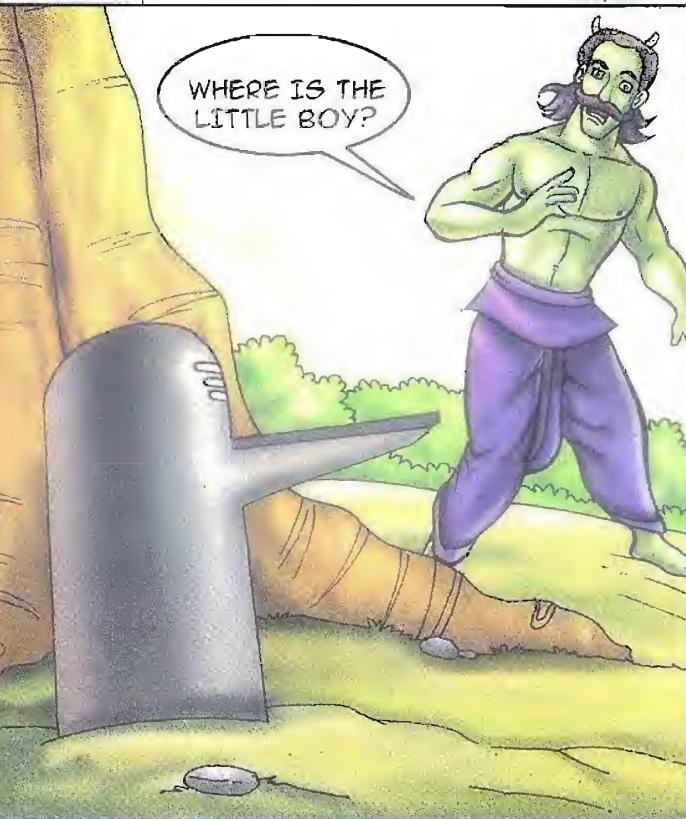
AND SO, GANESHA IN THE GUISE OF A LITTLE BOY, PUT THE IMAGE OF LORD SHIVA UNDER THE TREE AND WENT AWAY.



AFTER A WHILE WHEN RAVANA CAME BACK, HE WAS ASTONISHED TO SEE THE IMAGE ON THE GROUND.

WHERE IS THE LITTLE BOY?

LITTLE BOY,
WHERE ARE YOU?



BUT ON RECEIVING NO REPLY, HE REALIZED THAT A TRICK HAD BEEN PLAYED ON HIM.

I AM SURE THAT THE LITTLE BOY HAS TRICKED ME.

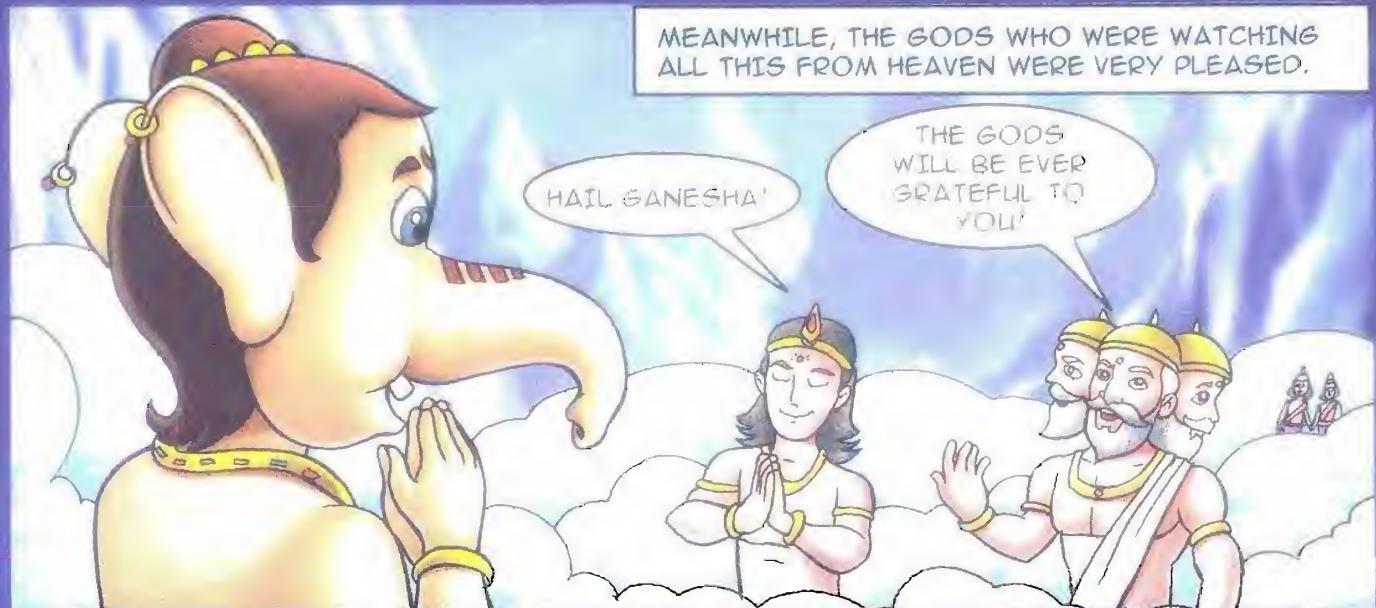
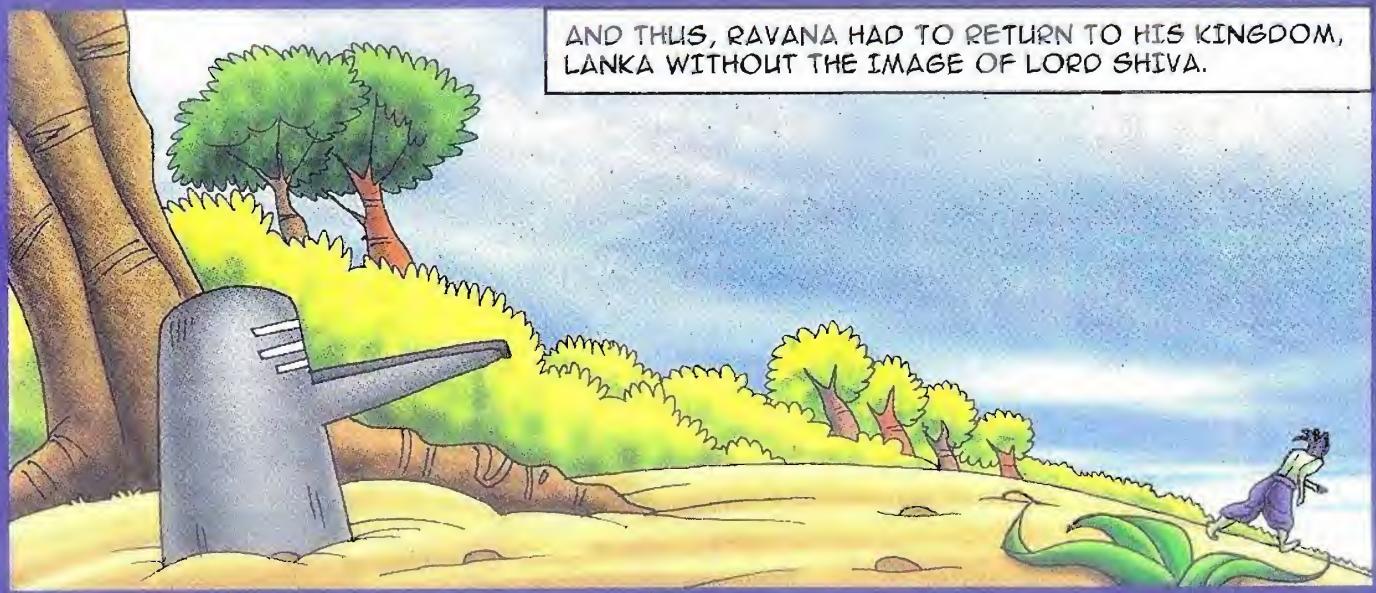
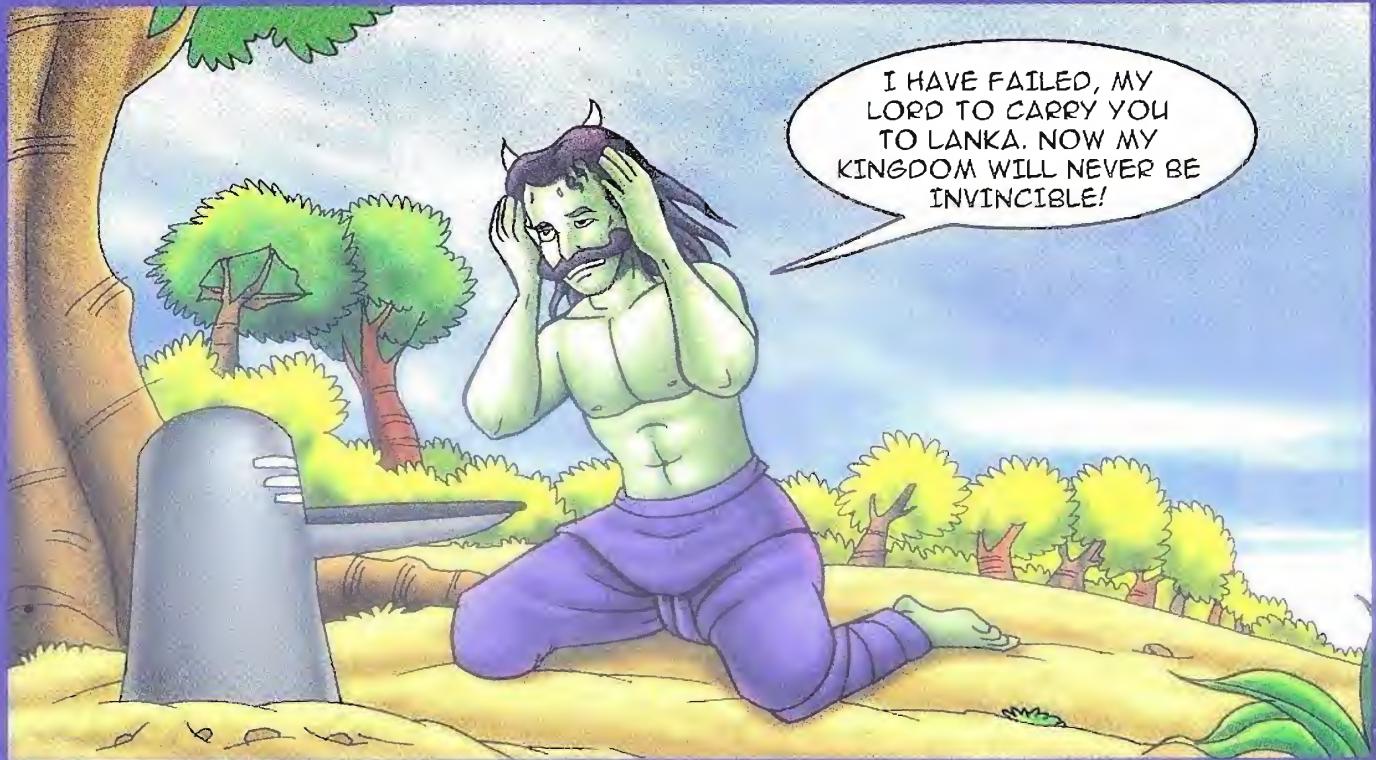


BUT TO HIS UTTER DISMAY, HE COULD NOT EVEN MOVE THE IMAGE AN INCH!

HELP ME, LORD!

MERCY, LORD!

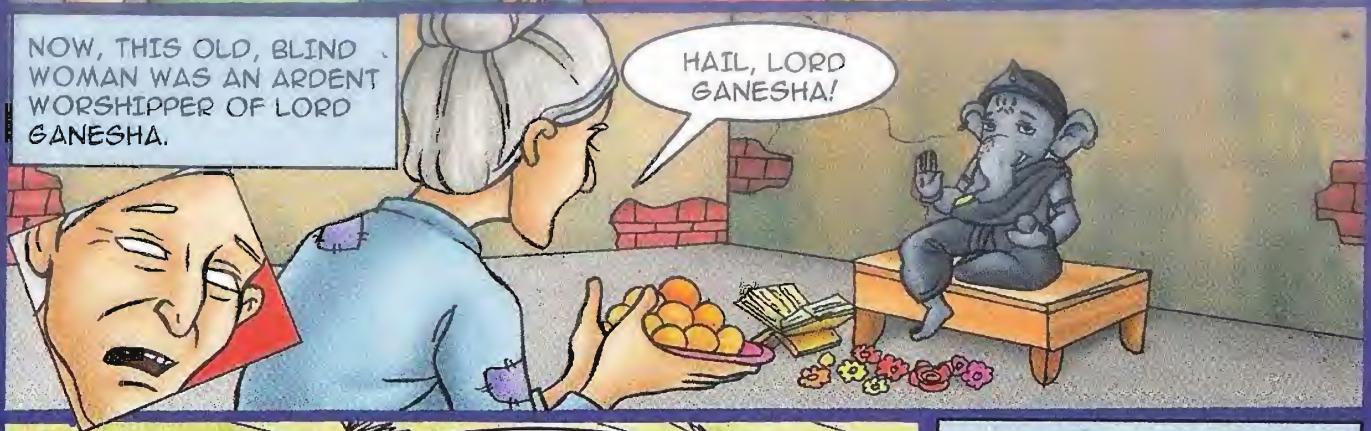




ONCE, THERE WAS AN OLD, BLIND WOMAN WHO LIVED IN A VILLAGE WITH HER SON AND HIS WIFE.



NOW, THIS OLD, BLIND WOMAN WAS AN ARDENT WORSHIPPER OF LORD GANESHA.



ONE DAY...

MOTHER, YOU ALWAYS PRAY TO LORD GANESHA. CAN'T HE BLESS US TO IMPROVE OUR LOT?

YES, SON. HE CAN, IF WE PRAY TO HIM.

AND SO, ONE DAY SHE INVOKED GANESHA WITH A LOT OF DEVOTION.

LORD, PLEASE APPEAR BEFORE ME.

THEN WHY DON'T YOU ASK HIM TO GRANT US A GOOD LIFE?

I THINK I WILL INVOKE GANESHA AND ENTREAT HIM TO IMPROVE OUR LIFE.

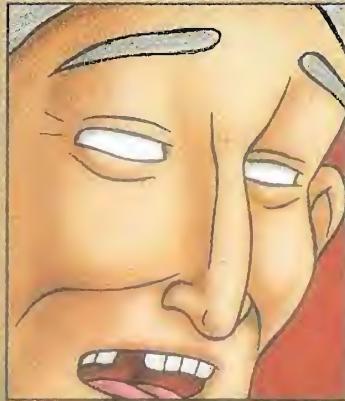
AFTER A LONG TIME...

OLD LADY, I
HAVE COME.

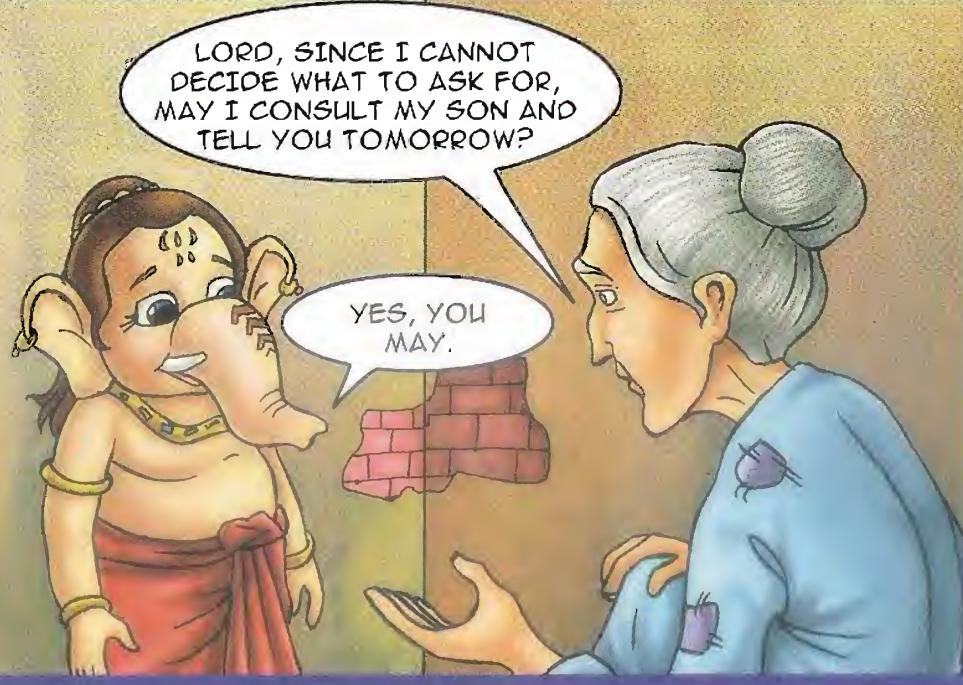
LORD, YOU HAVE
COME! PLEASE
ACCEPT MY
REGARDS.

I AM VERY HAPPY
WITH YOUR
DEDICATION. MAKE
A WISH AND IT WILL
BE GRANTED.

AT THIS, THE OLD
WOMAN WAS A
LITTLE CONFUSED.

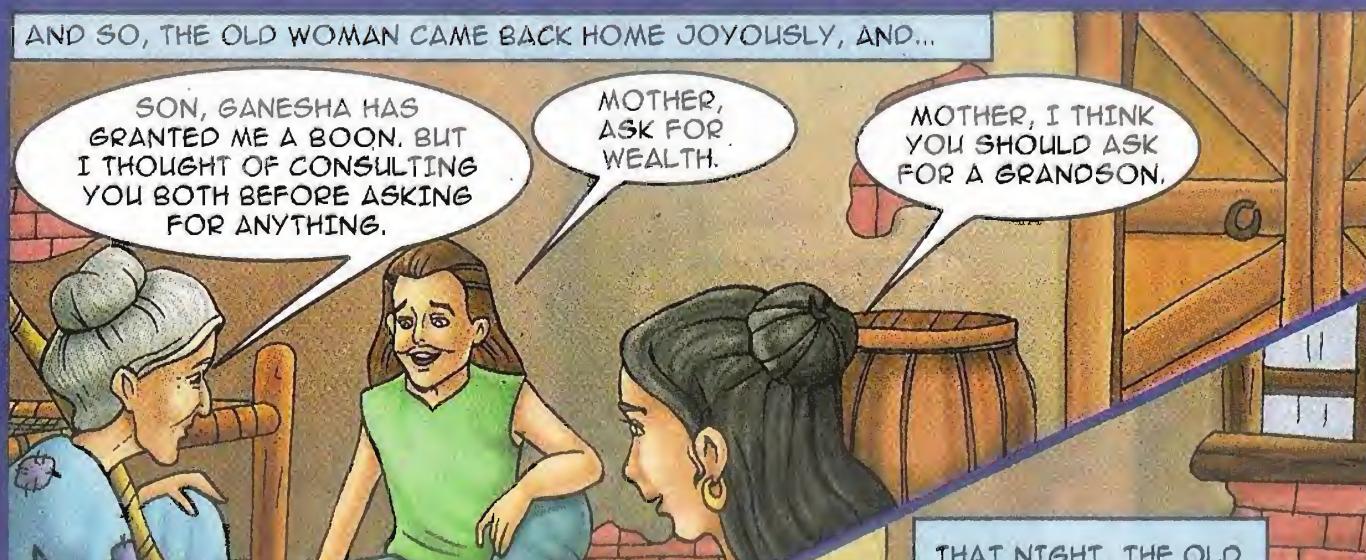


LORD, SINCE I CANNOT DECIDE WHAT TO ASK FOR, MAY I CONSULT MY SON AND TELL YOU TOMORROW?



YES, YOU MAY.

AND SO, THE OLD WOMAN CAME BACK HOME JOYOUSLY, AND...



SON, GANESHA HAS GRANTED ME A BOON. BUT I THOUGHT OF CONSULTING YOU BOTH BEFORE ASKING FOR ANYTHING.

MOTHER,
ASK FOR
WEALTH.

MOTHER, I THINK
YOU SHOULD ASK
FOR A GRANDSON.



THAT NIGHT, THE OLD WOMAN KEPT ON THINKING WHAT WAS REALLY NEEDED TO LIVE A GOOD LIFE.

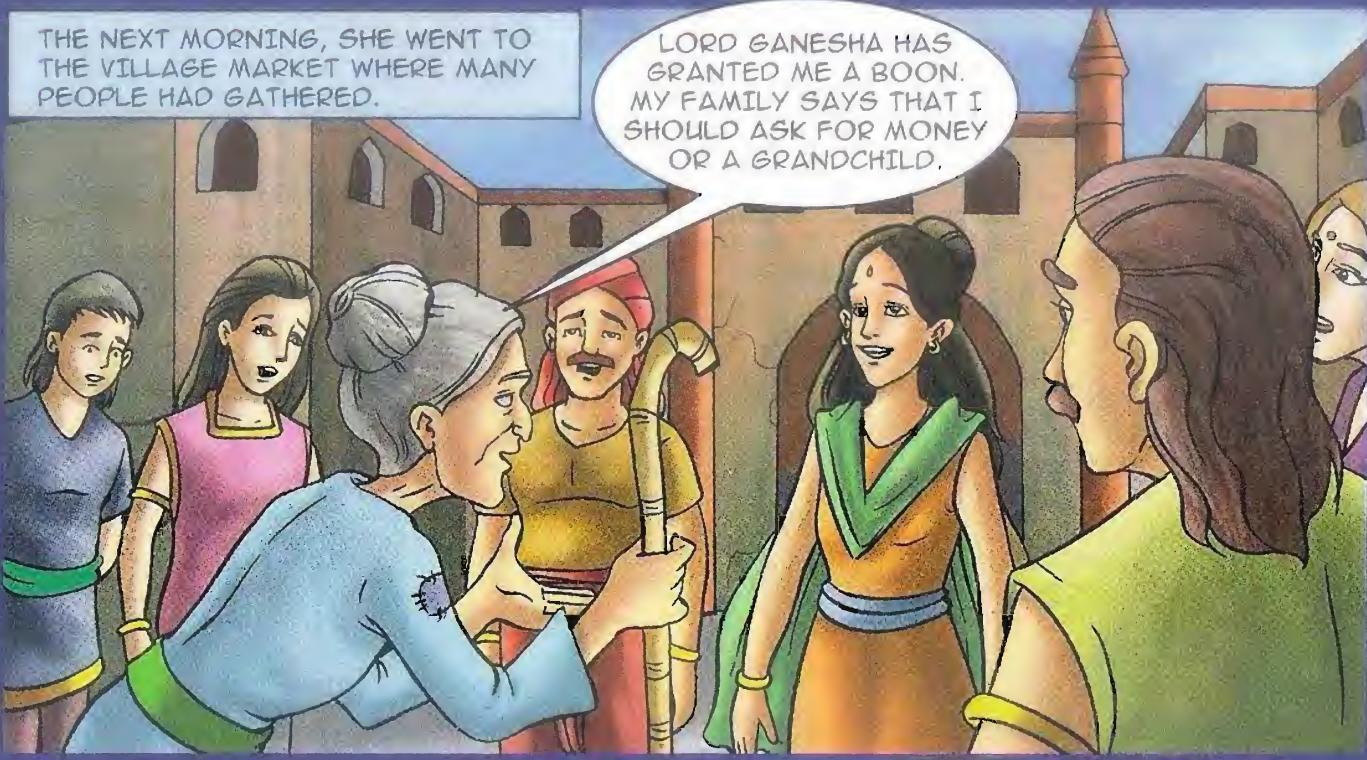
MY LIFE HAS NEARLY COME TO AN END. WHAT WILL I DO WITH WEALTH?

MY SON AND HIS WIFE ARE SELFISH. THEY NEVER THINK ABOUT MY WELL-BEING.



I THINK I SHOULD CONSULT MY NEIGHBORS REGARDING THIS.

THE NEXT MORNING, SHE WENT TO THE VILLAGE MARKET WHERE MANY PEOPLE HAD GATHERED.



LORD GANESHA HAS GRANTED ME A BOON. MY FAMILY SAYS THAT I SHOULD ASK FOR MONEY OR A GRANDCHILD.



BUT, DON'T YOU THINK THAT YOU SHOULD ASK SOMETHING FOR YOURSELF?

BUT WHAT SHALL I ASK FOR MYSELF?

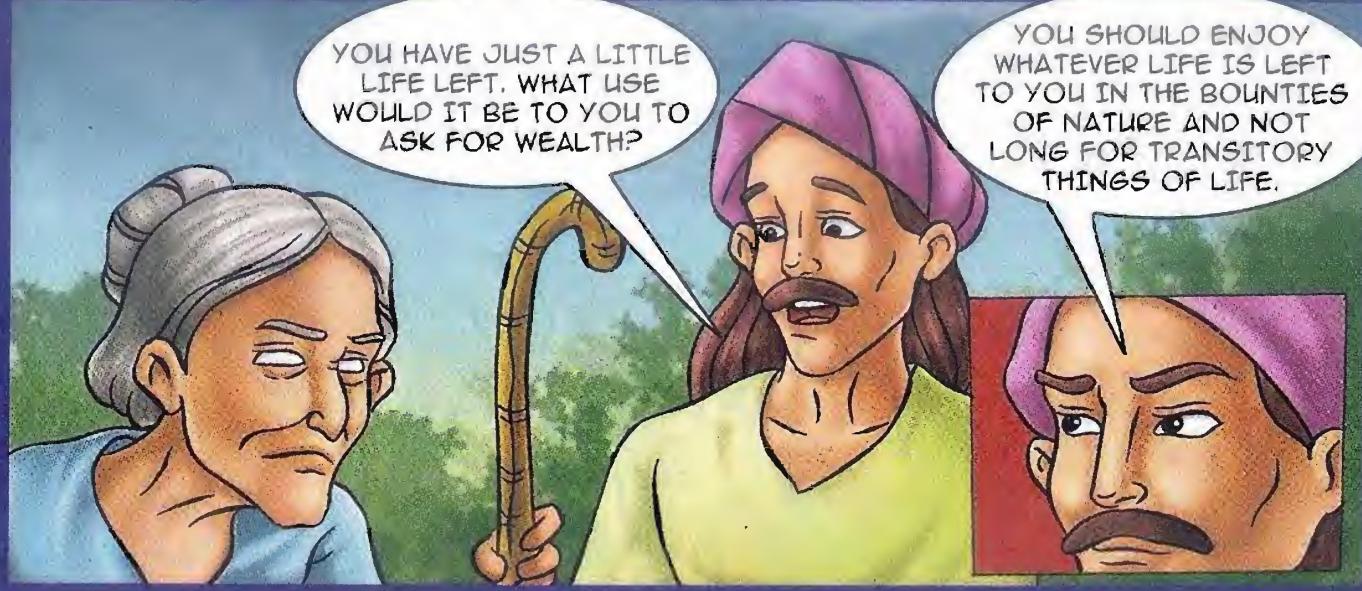
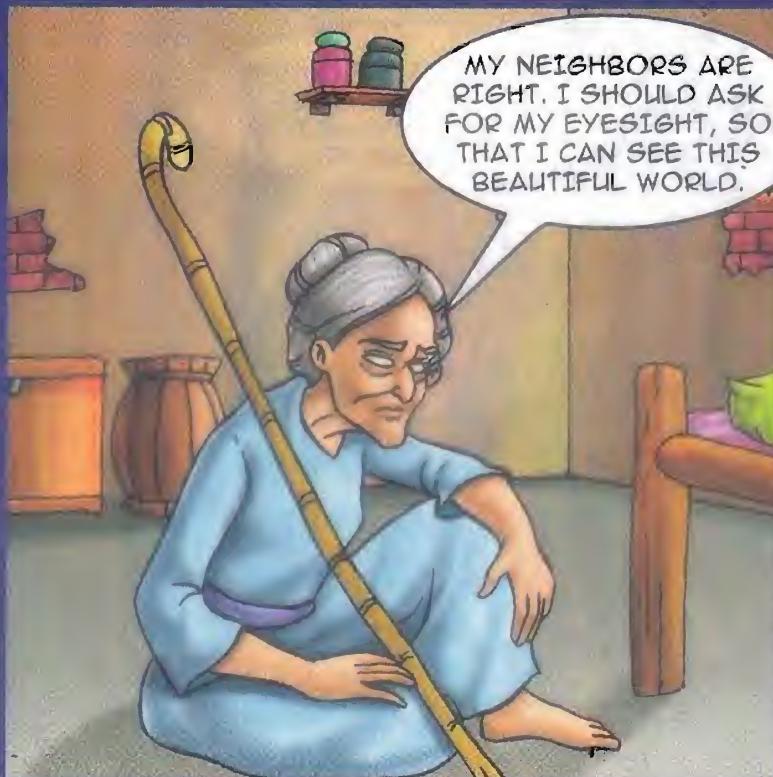
WHY DON'T YOU ASK GANESHA TO GIVE YOU VISION?

YOU HAVE JUST A LITTLE LIFE LEFT. WHAT USE WOULD IT BE TO YOU TO ASK FOR WEALTH?

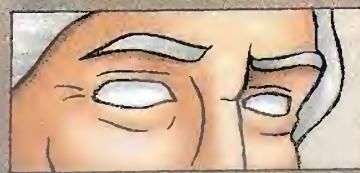
YOU SHOULD ENJOY WHATEVER LIFE IS LEFT TO YOU IN THE BOUNTIES OF NATURE AND NOT LONG FOR TRANSITORY THINGS OF LIFE.

MY NEIGHBORS ARE RIGHT. I SHOULD ASK FOR MY EYESIGHT, SO THAT I CAN SEE THIS BEAUTIFUL WORLD.

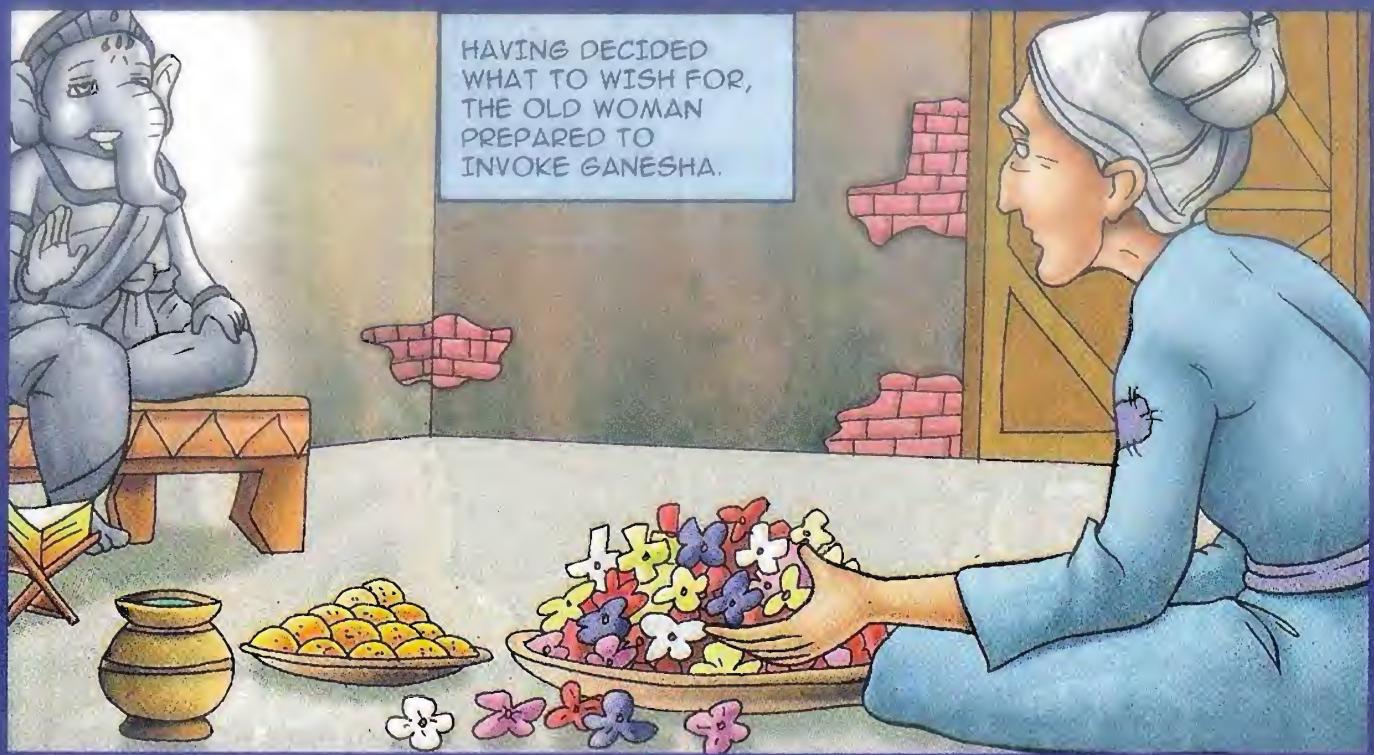
BUT HOW CAN I IGNORE MY FAMILY'S WISHES OF WEALTH AND A GRANDSON!



LET ME ASK FOR
SOMETHING WHICH
WILL INCLUDE ALL
OUR WISHES.

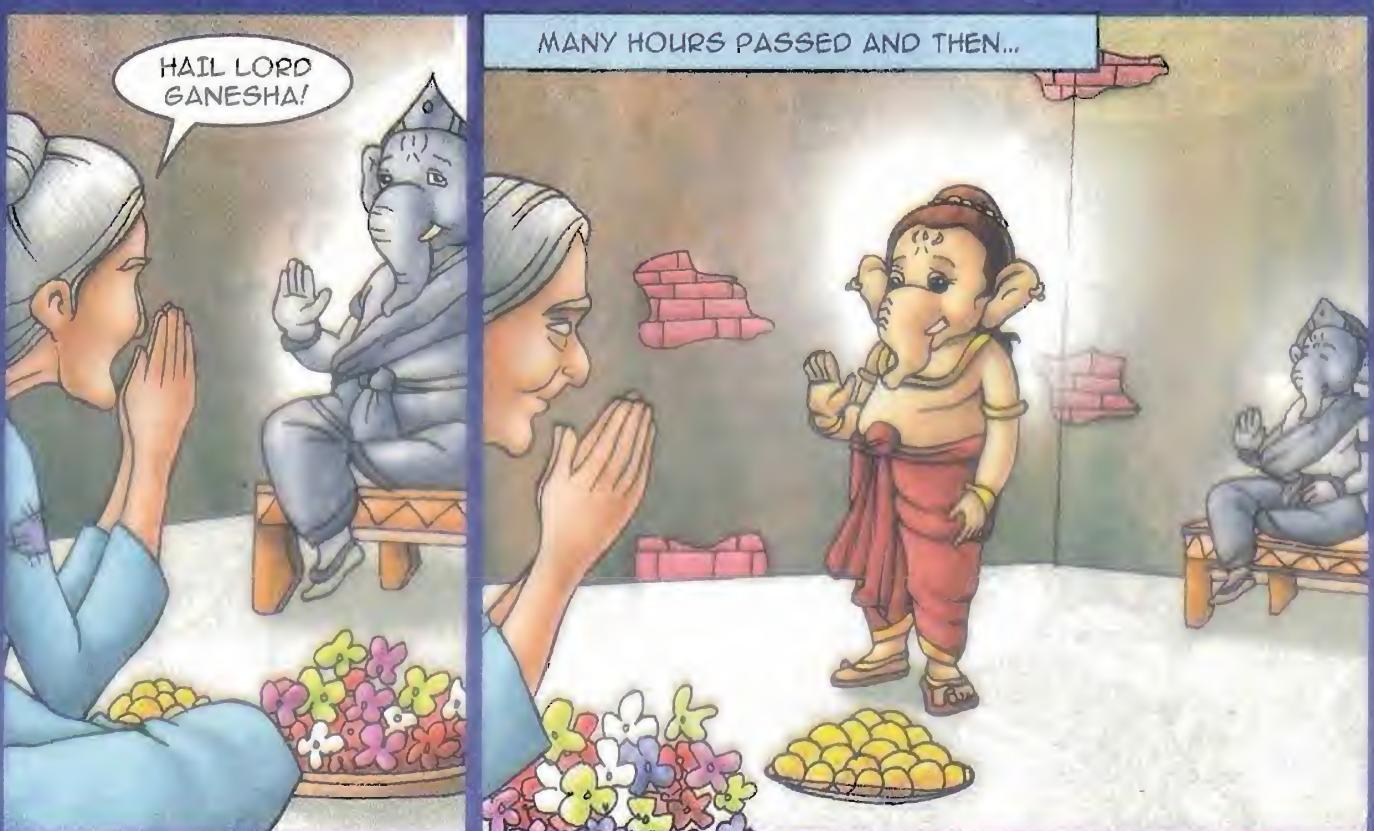


HAVING DECIDED
WHAT TO WISH FOR,
THE OLD WOMAN
PREPARED TO
INVOKE GANESHA.



HAIL LORD
GANESHA!

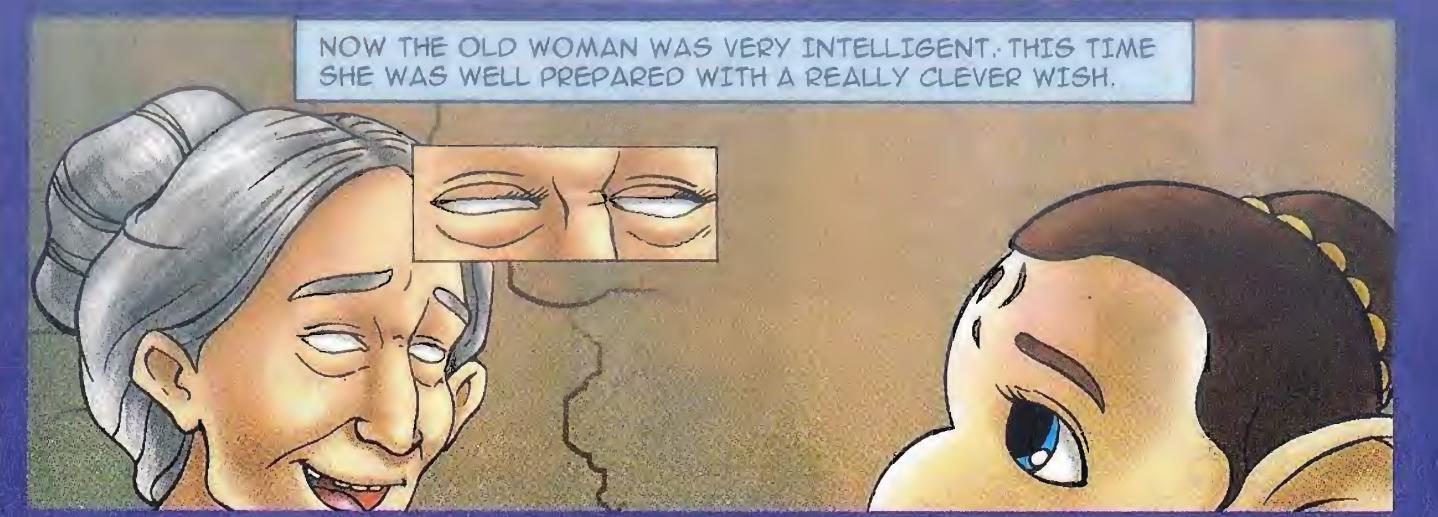
MANY HOURS PASSED AND THEN...



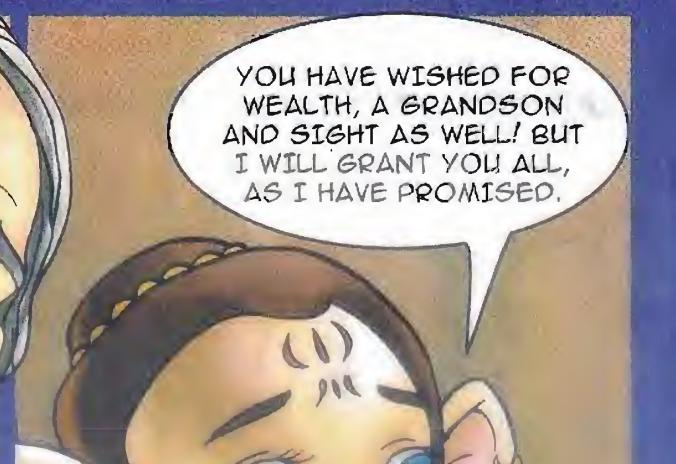


I AM VERY PLEASED WITH YOU. HAVE YOU THOUGHT WHAT YOU WISH TO HAVE FROM ME AS A BLESSING?

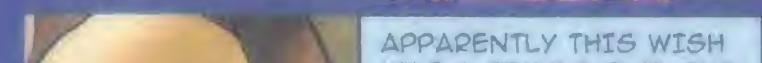
NOW THE OLD WOMAN WAS VERY INTELLIGENT. THIS TIME SHE WAS WELL PREPARED WITH A REALLY CLEVER WISH.



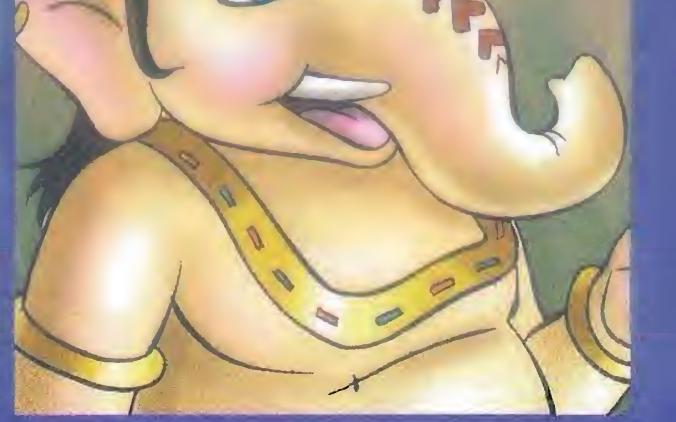
YES, MY LORD. GRANT ME THAT I MAY ENJOY THE PLEASURE OF SEEING MY GRANDSON BEING FED IN A BOWL OF GOLD.



YOU HAVE WISHED FOR WEALTH, A GRANDSON AND SIGHT AS WELL! BUT I WILL GRANT YOU ALL, AS I HAVE PROMISED.



APPARENTLY THIS WISH WAS A SIMPLE ONE. BUT IN REALITY...



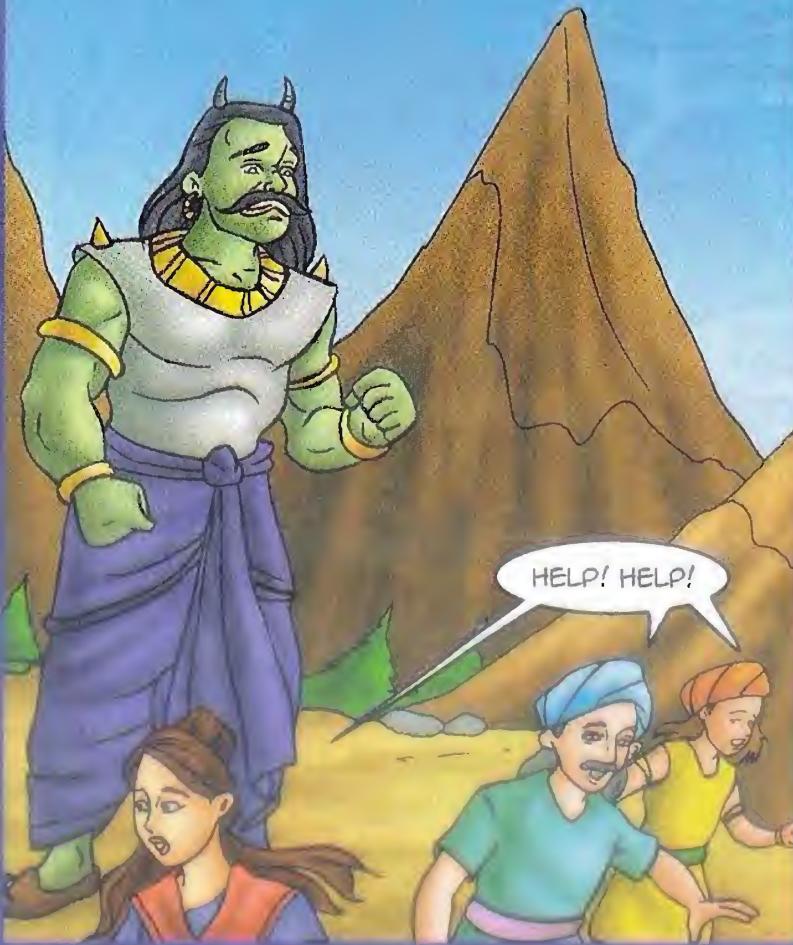
YOU ARE VERY INTELLIGENT. THROUGH THIS ONE WISH, YOU HAVE ASKED FOR EVERYTHING.

IT WAS KNOWN BY THE GODS AND MEN ALIKE, THAT WORSHIPPING LORD GANESHA BEFORE AN ACTIVITY INEVITABLY BROUGHT SUCCESS. BUT WHAT IF GANESHA WAS NOT WORSHIPPED?

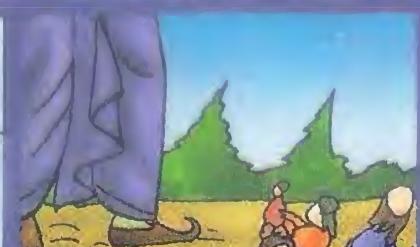
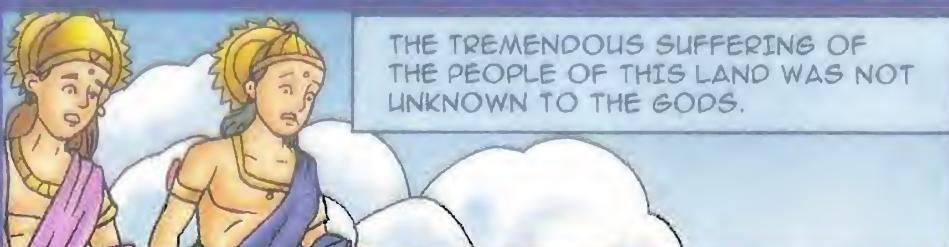


IT SO HAPPENED, THAT ONCE A LARGE GROUP OF DEMONS PLUNDERED THE EASTERN PART OF INDIA.

THIS LAND BELONGS TO US! SO, LEAVE AT ONCE OR PREPARE TO DIE.



THE TREMENDOUS SUFFERINGS OF THE PEOPLE OF THIS LAND WAS NOT UNKNOWN TO THE GODS.



WE MUST TRY TO RESTORE PEACE IN THIS LAND.

AND SO, THE GODS PRAYED TO LORD SHIVA.

LET US PRAY TO LORD SHIVA. HE WILL SURELY FIND A WAY OUT.

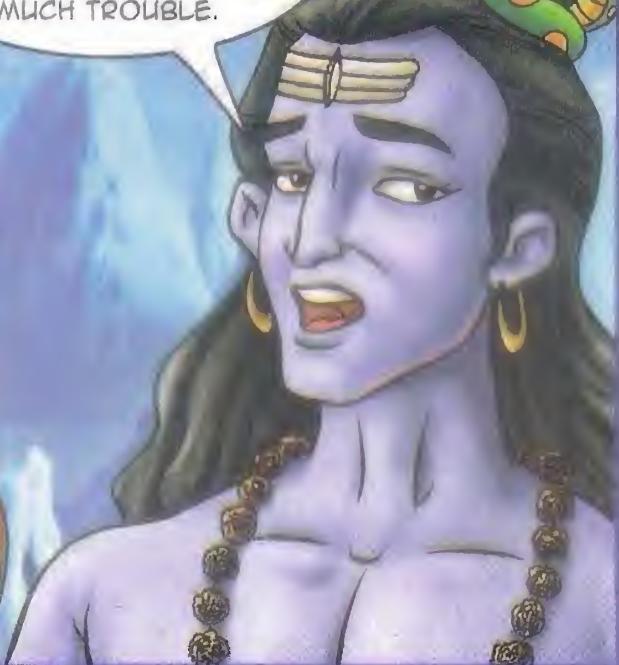
MEANWHILE, IN KAILASH...

PARVATI, I THINK I SHOULD VISIT EARTH ONCE. MY PEOPLE ARE IN TROUBLE.

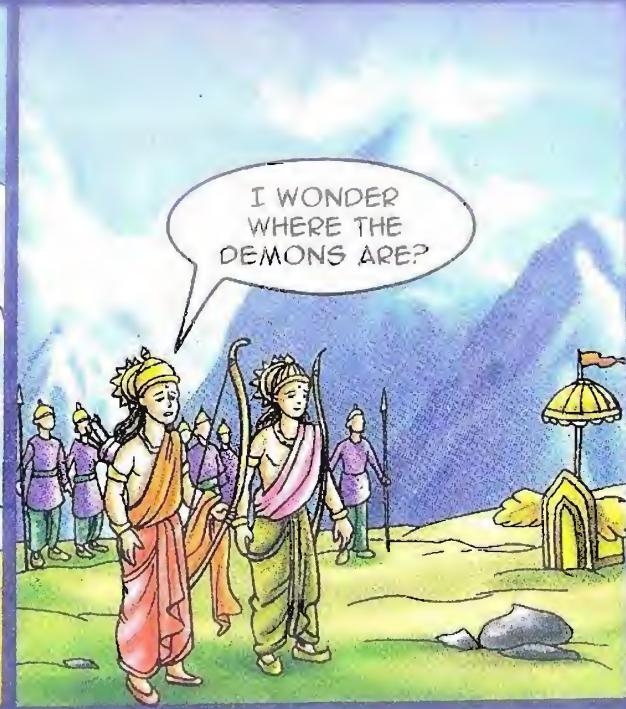
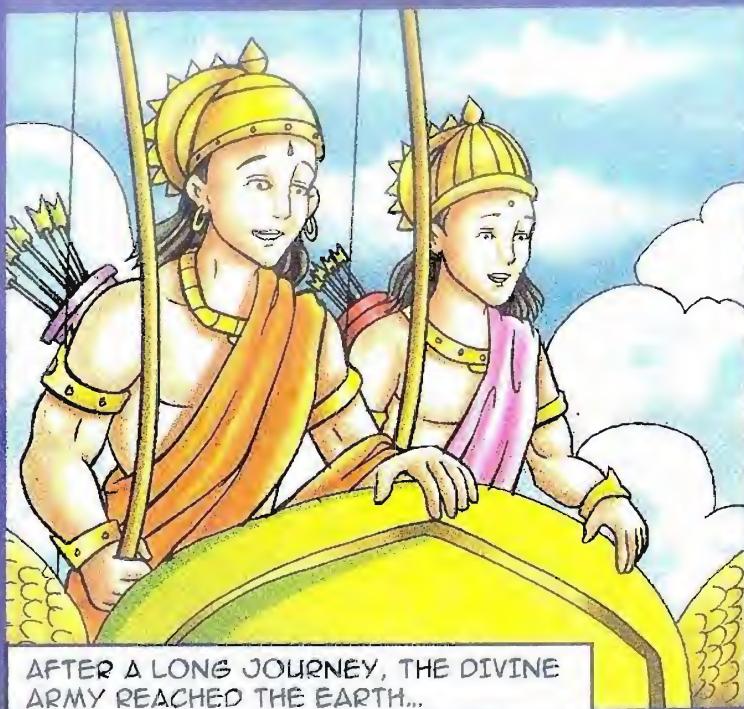
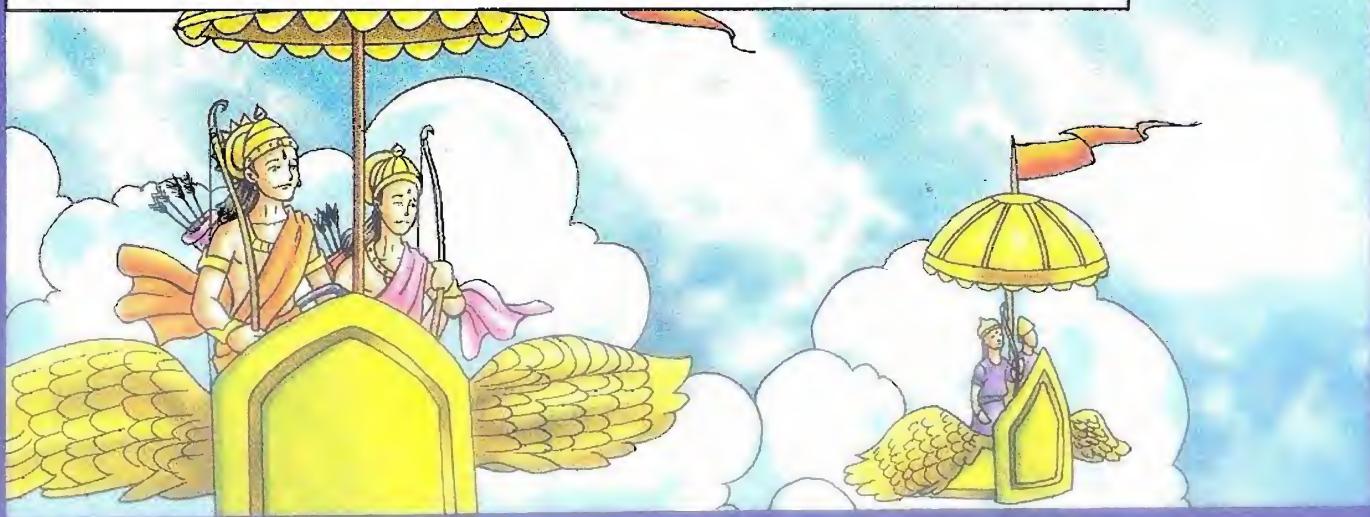
WHAT IS IT, MY LORD?

THE GODS HAVE BEEN PRAYING TO ME FOR GUIDANCE AS THE PEOPLE OF EARTH ARE IN TROUBLE.

LET ME FIRST SEND THE ARMY OF HEAVEN TO FIGHT THE DEMONS WHO ARE CREATING SO MUCH TROUBLE.

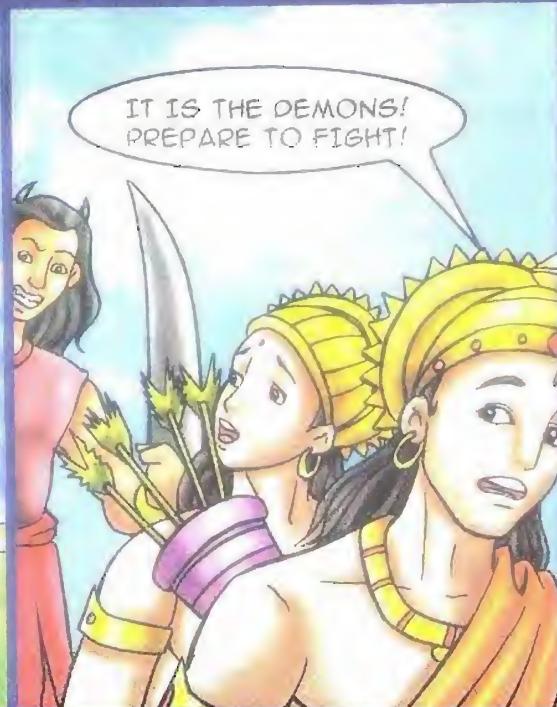
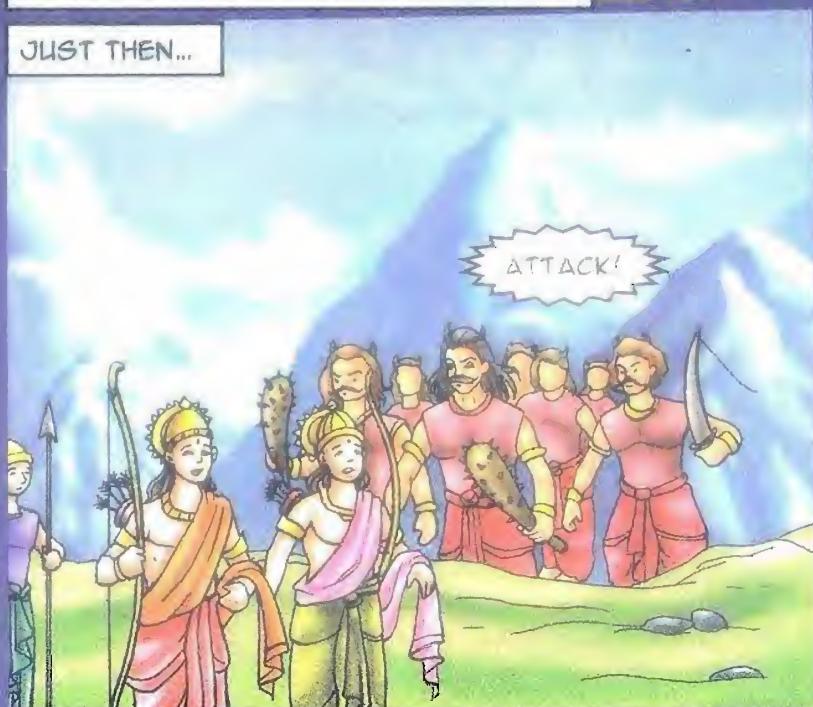


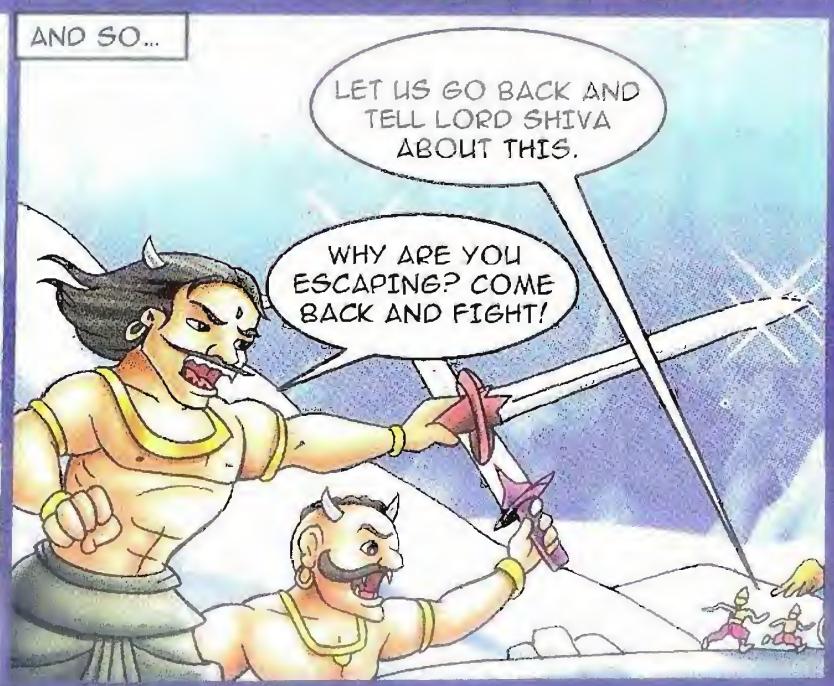
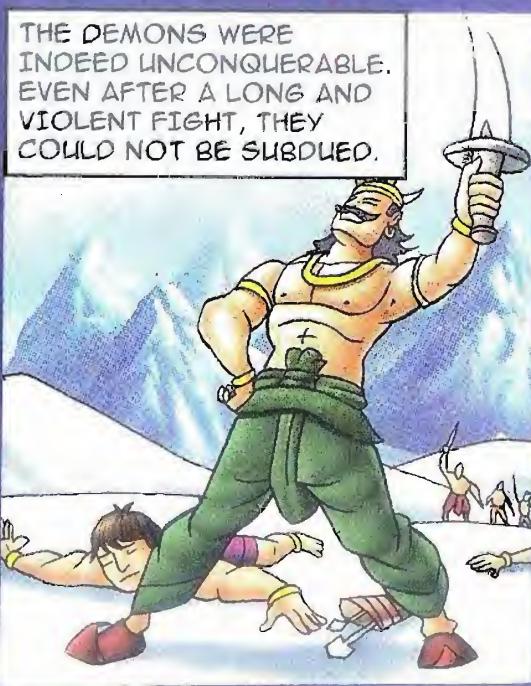
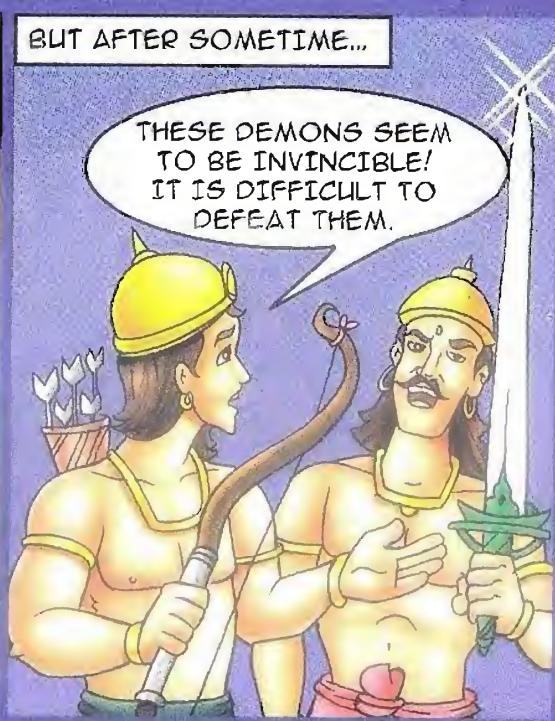
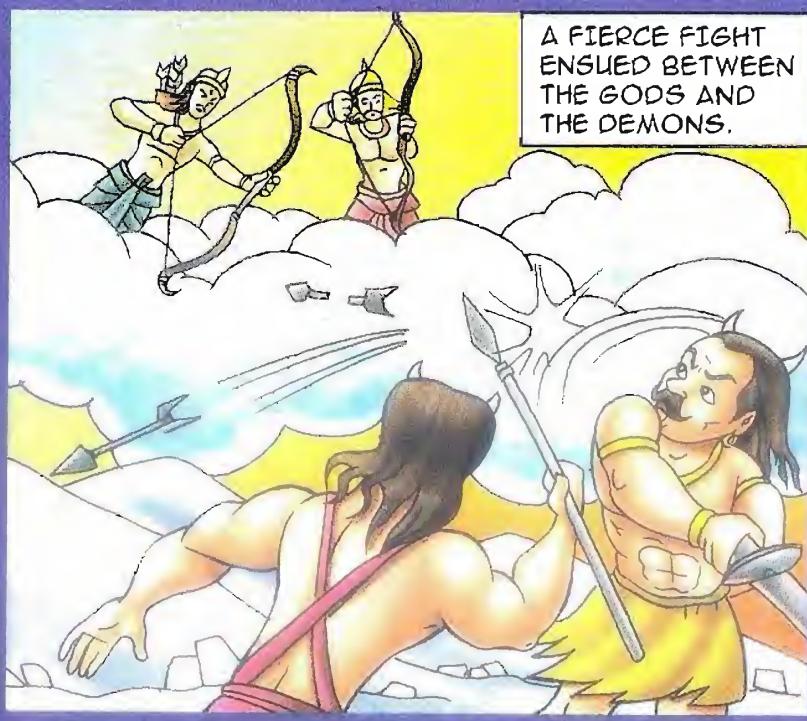
AND SO, LORD SHIVA SENT AN ARMY OF GODS TO FIGHT THESE DEMONS.



AFTER A LONG JOURNEY, THE DIVINE ARMY REACHED THE EARTH...

JUST THEN...

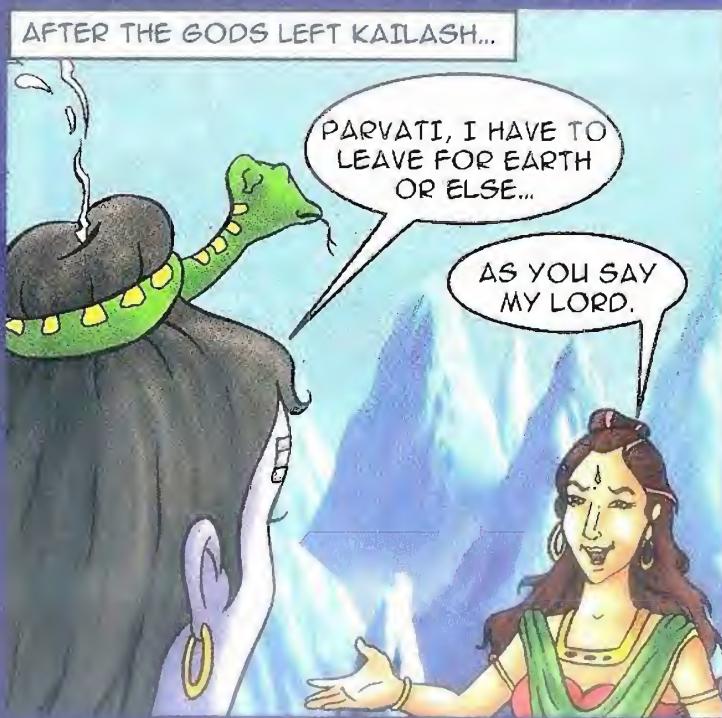




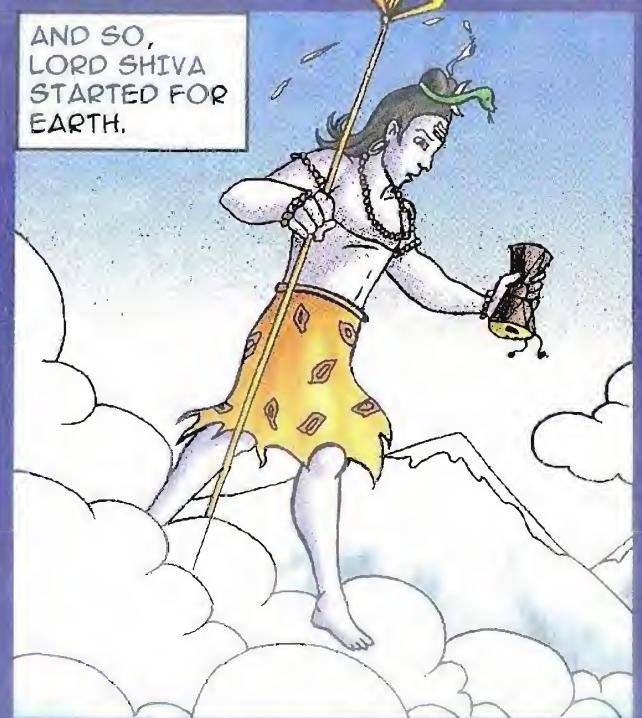
ON REACHING KAILASH...



AFTER THE GODS LEFT KAILASH...



AND SO,
LORD SHIVA
STARTED FOR
EARTH.



THE MOMENT HE REACHED EARTH...



A TERRIBLE BATTLE TOOK PLACE. MANY DEMONS DIED.

GO BACK TO YOUR OWN LAND!

IN SPITE OF BEING SUCCESSFUL IN THE WAR, LORD SHIVA HAD A STRANGE PREMONITION. THEREFORE...

WHY DO I FEEL THAT SOMETHING MIGHT GO WRONG?

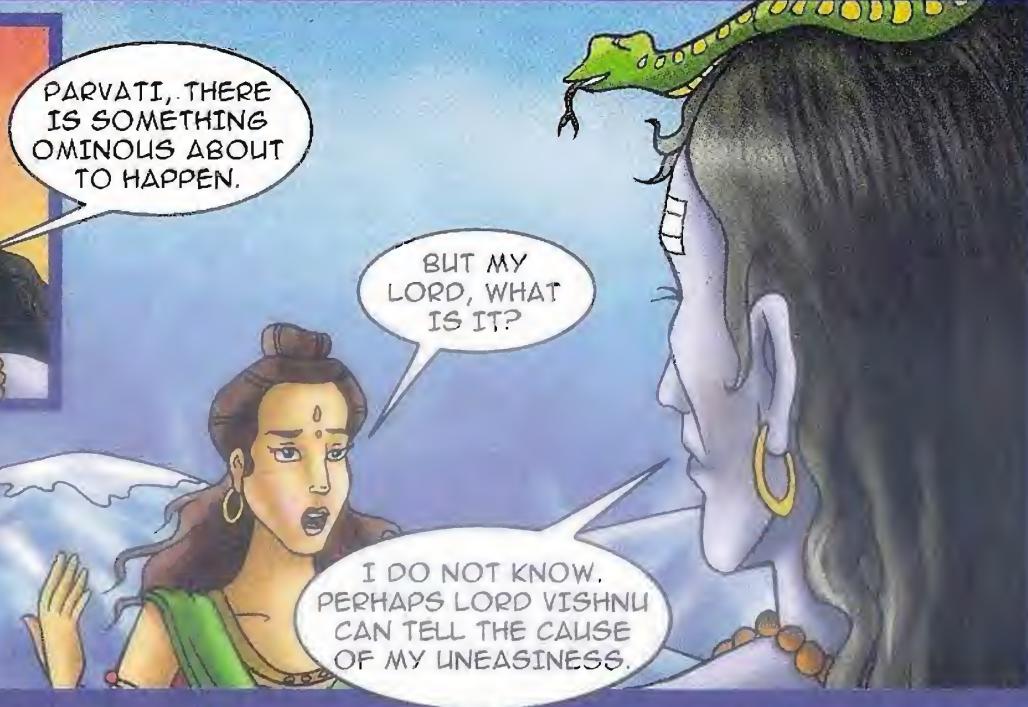
AND SO, LORD SHIVA DECIDED TO RETURN TO KAILASH.

WHEN HE REACHED KAILASH....

MY LORD, YOU ARE BACK SO SOON!



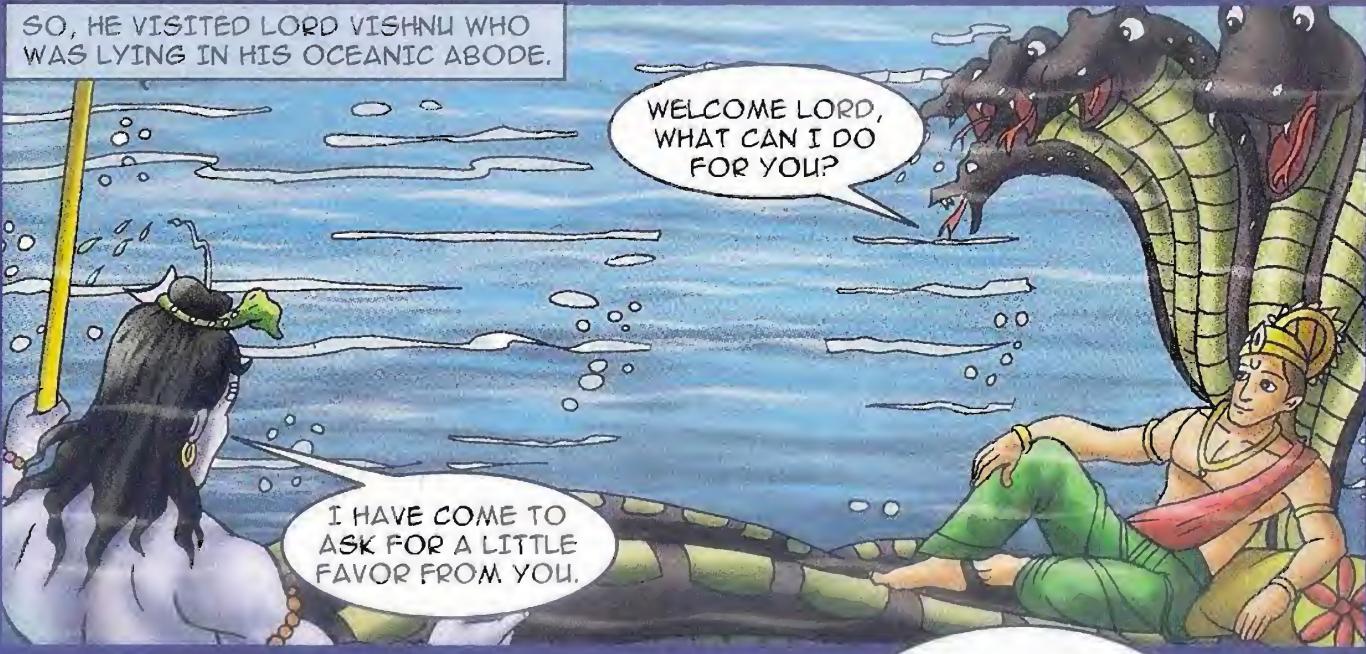
PARVATI, THERE IS SOMETHING OMINOUS ABOUT TO HAPPEN.



BUT MY LORD, WHAT IS IT?

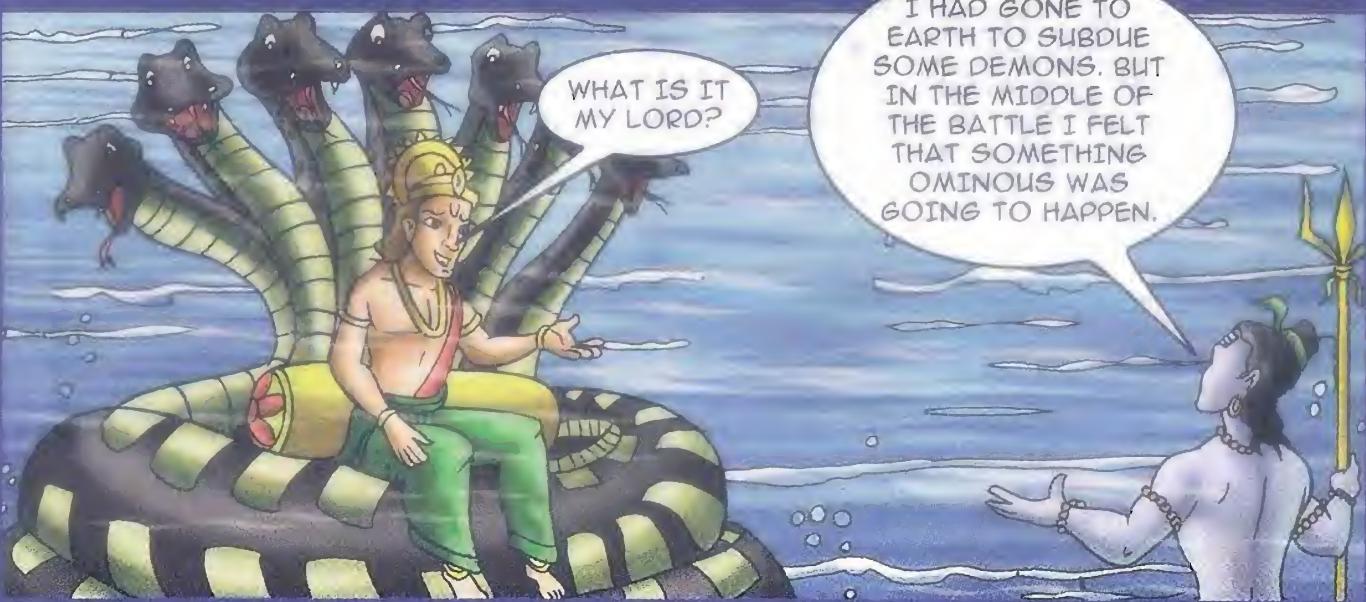
I DO NOT KNOW. PERHAPS LORD VISHNU CAN TELL THE CAUSE OF MY UNEASINESS.

SO, HE VISITED LORD VISHNU WHO WAS LYING IN HIS OCEANIC ABODE.



I HAVE COME TO ASK FOR A LITTLE FAVOR FROM YOU.

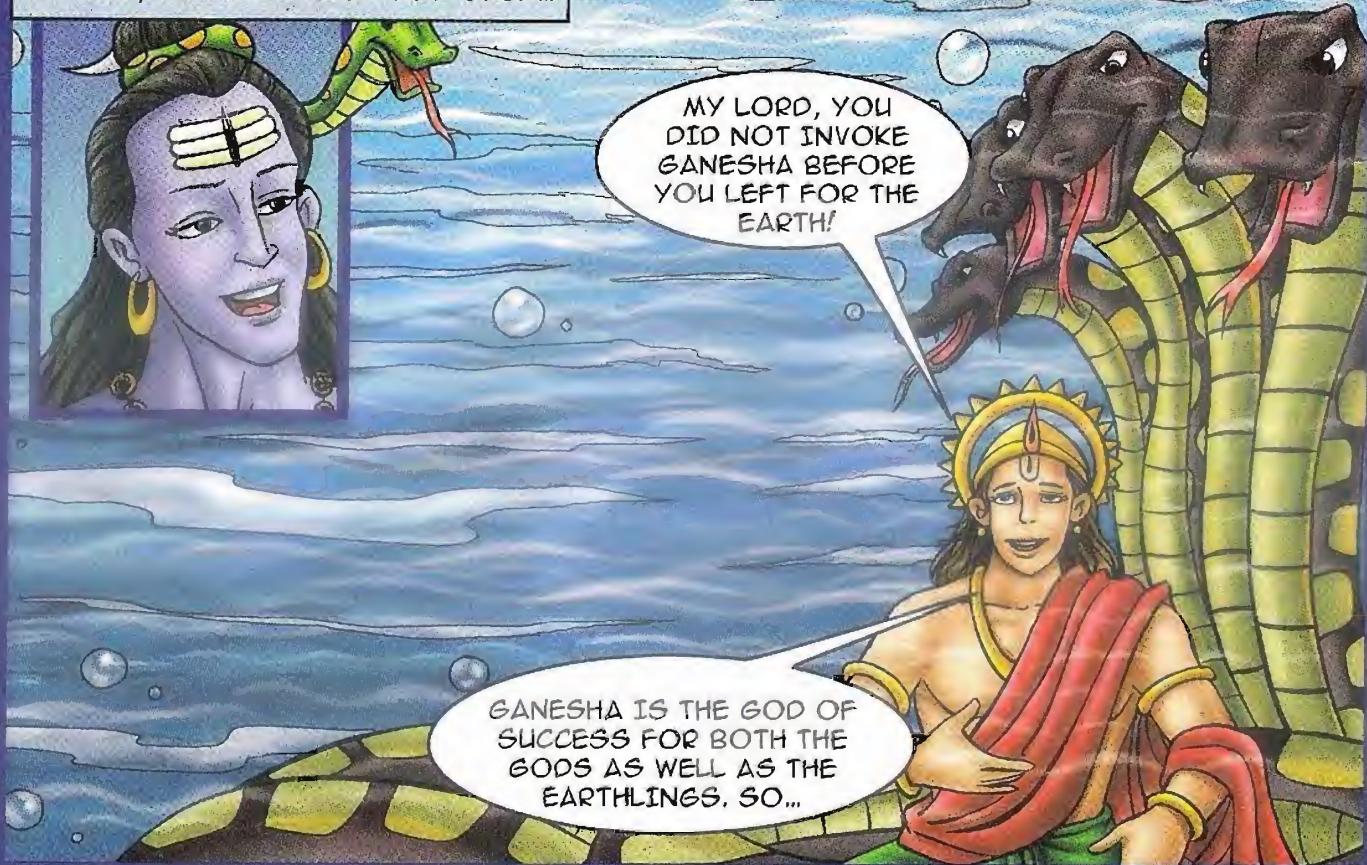
WELCOME LORD, WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?



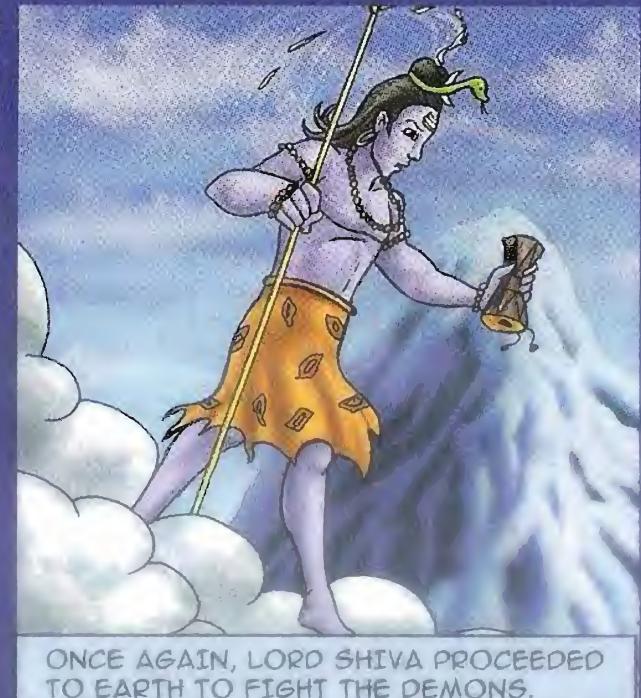
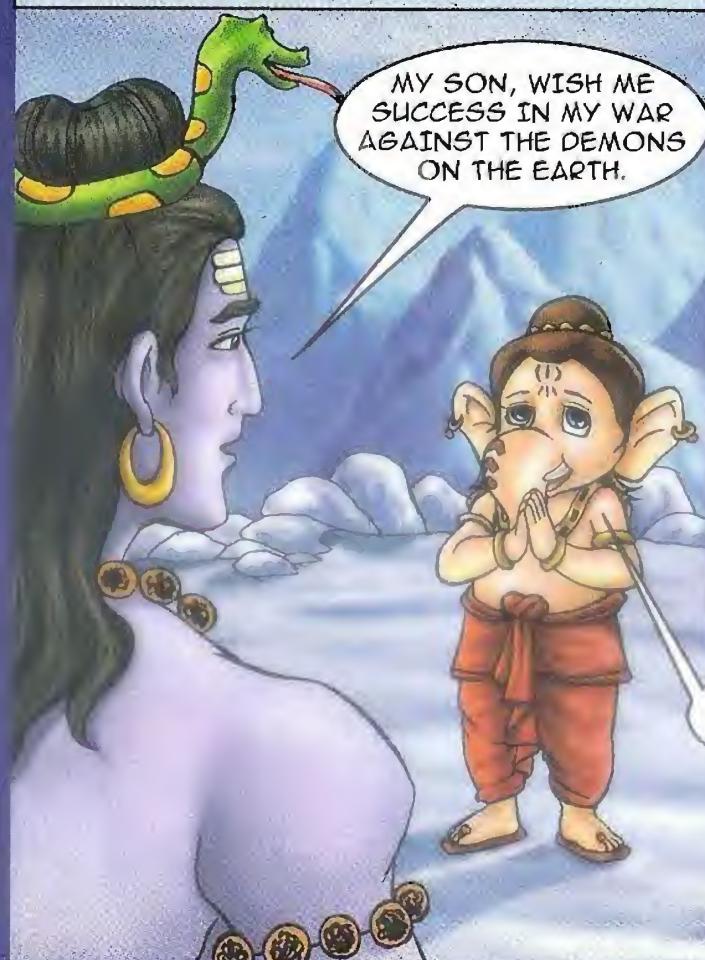
I HAD GONE TO EARTH TO SUBDU SOME DEMONS. BUT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE BATTLE I FELT THAT SOMETHING OMINOUS WAS GOING TO HAPPEN.

WHAT IS IT MY LORD?

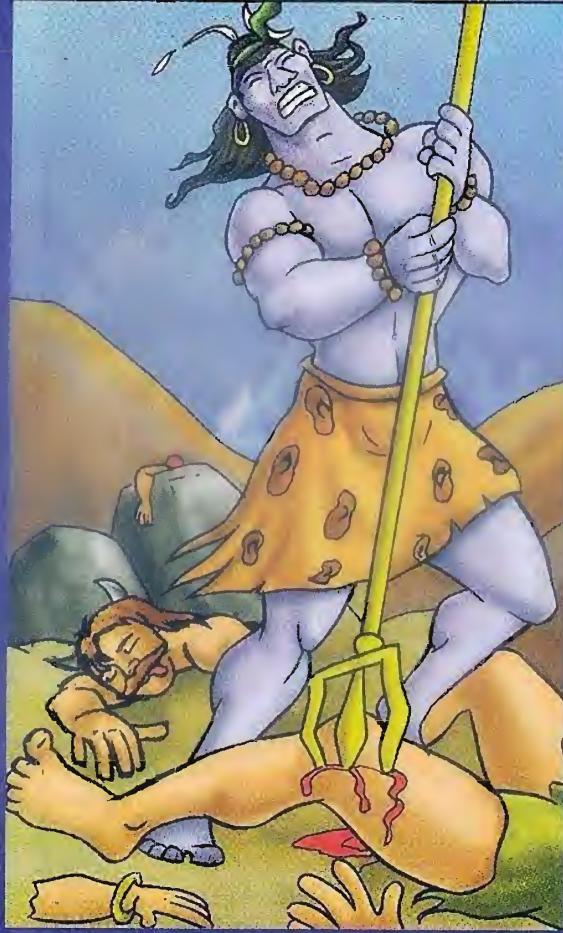
AT THIS, VISHNU SMILED AND SAID...



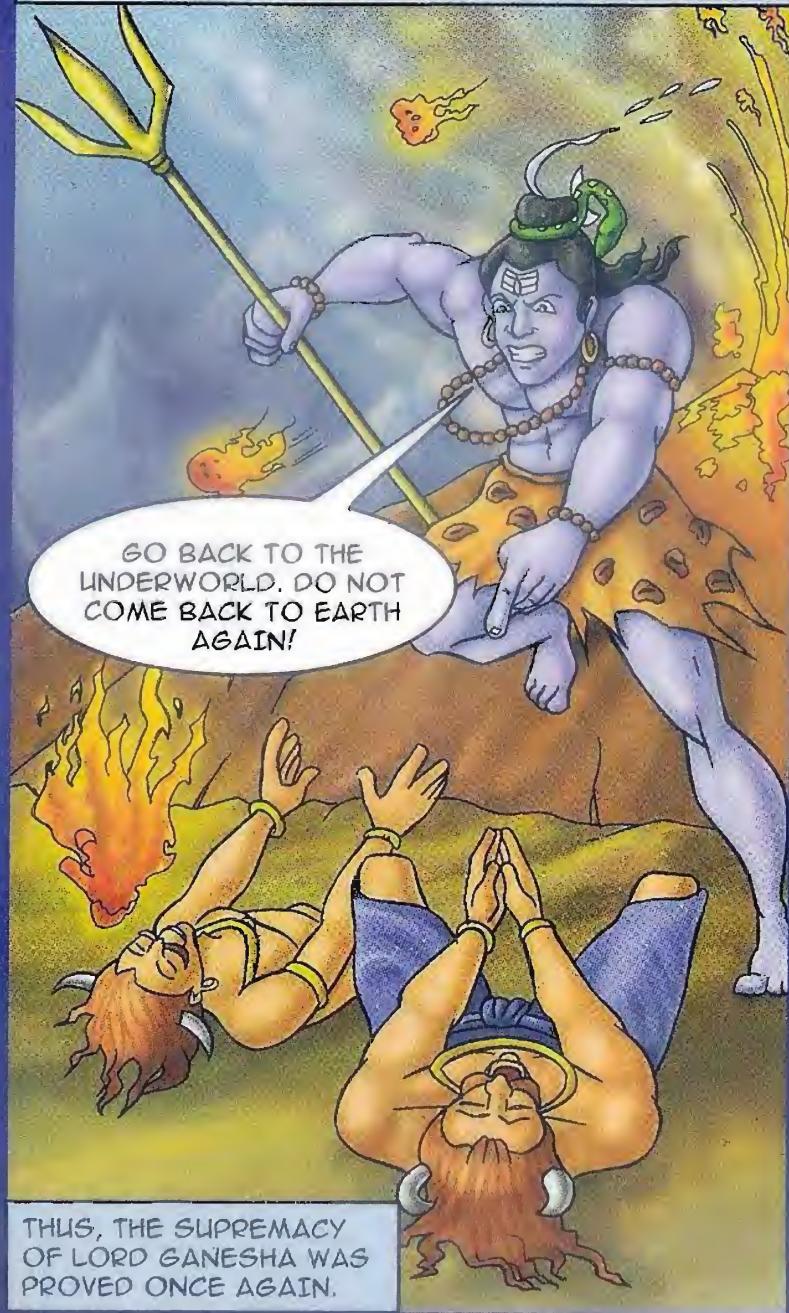
THUS, LORD SHIVA REALIZED HIS MISTAKE, AND INVOKED HIS SON, GANESHA.



BUT THIS TIME, THE DEMONS WERE BRUTALLY DEFEATED.



AFTER A FIERCE FIGHT, THE DEMONS WERE SENT TO THE UNDERWORLD BY LORD SHIVA.



MANY DAYS PASSED AFTER THIS OCCURRENCE. ONE DAY, LORD VISHNU NOTICED THAT HIS VALAMBURI CONCH SHELL HAD DISAPPEARED!

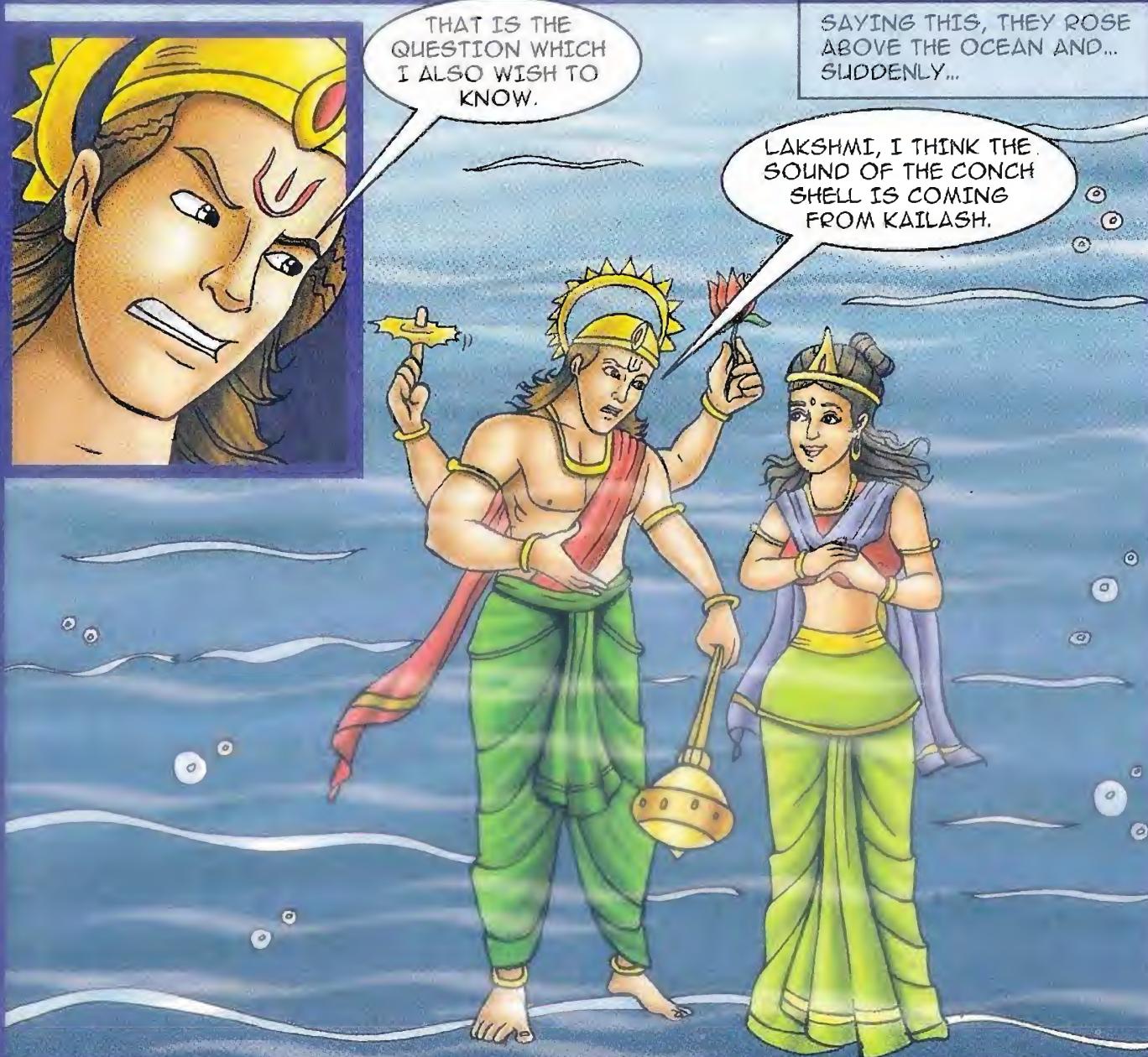
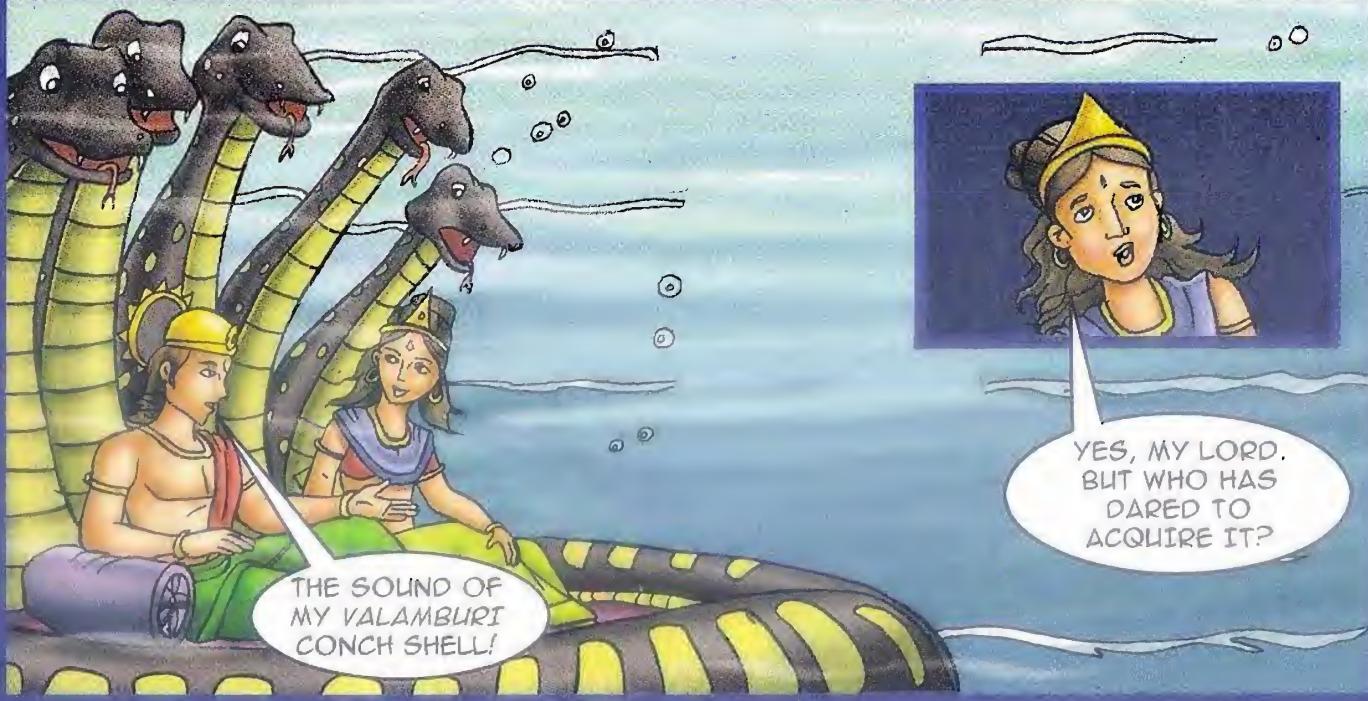


THUS, THE SUPREMACY OF LORD GANESHA WAS PROVED ONCE AGAIN.



AFTER A WHILE...





MY LORD, I THINK
YOU SHOULD
VISIT KAILASH
AT ONCE.

AND SO, VISHNU JOURNEYED
TOWARDS THE SNOWY
MOUNTAINS OF KAILASH.

YES, WELL
SUGGESTED.

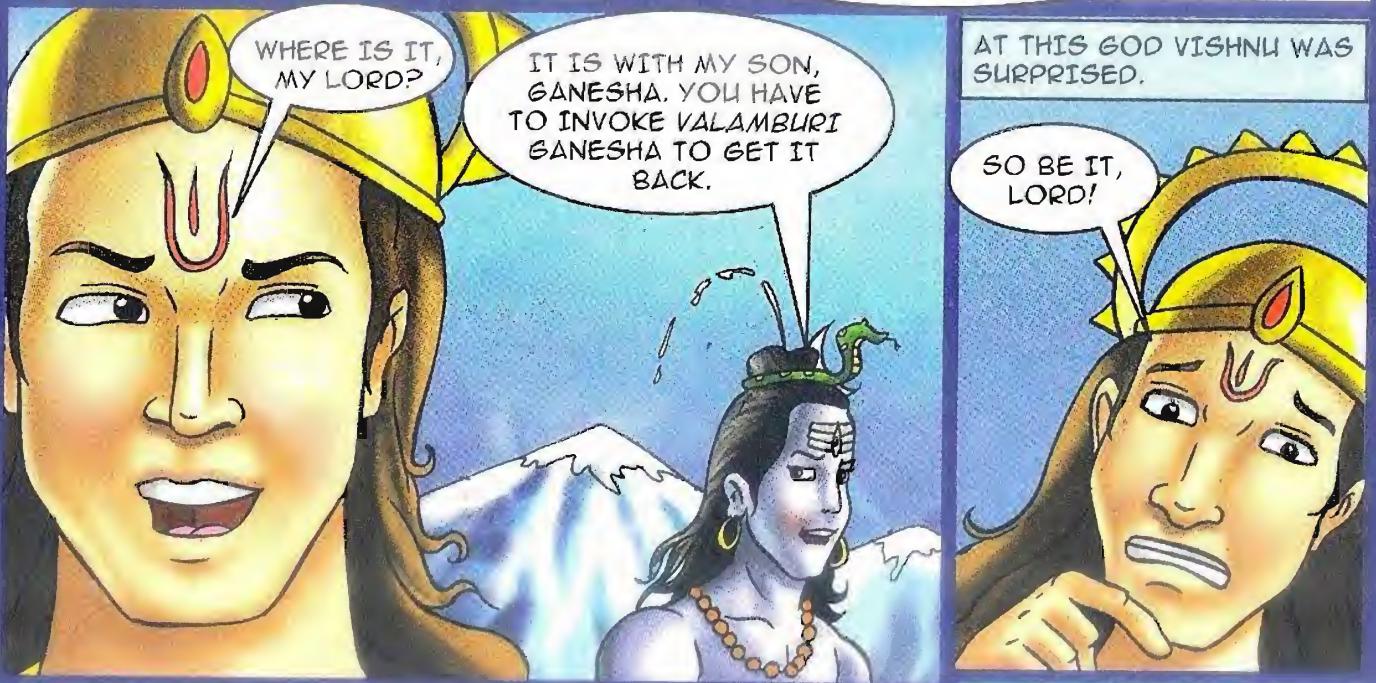
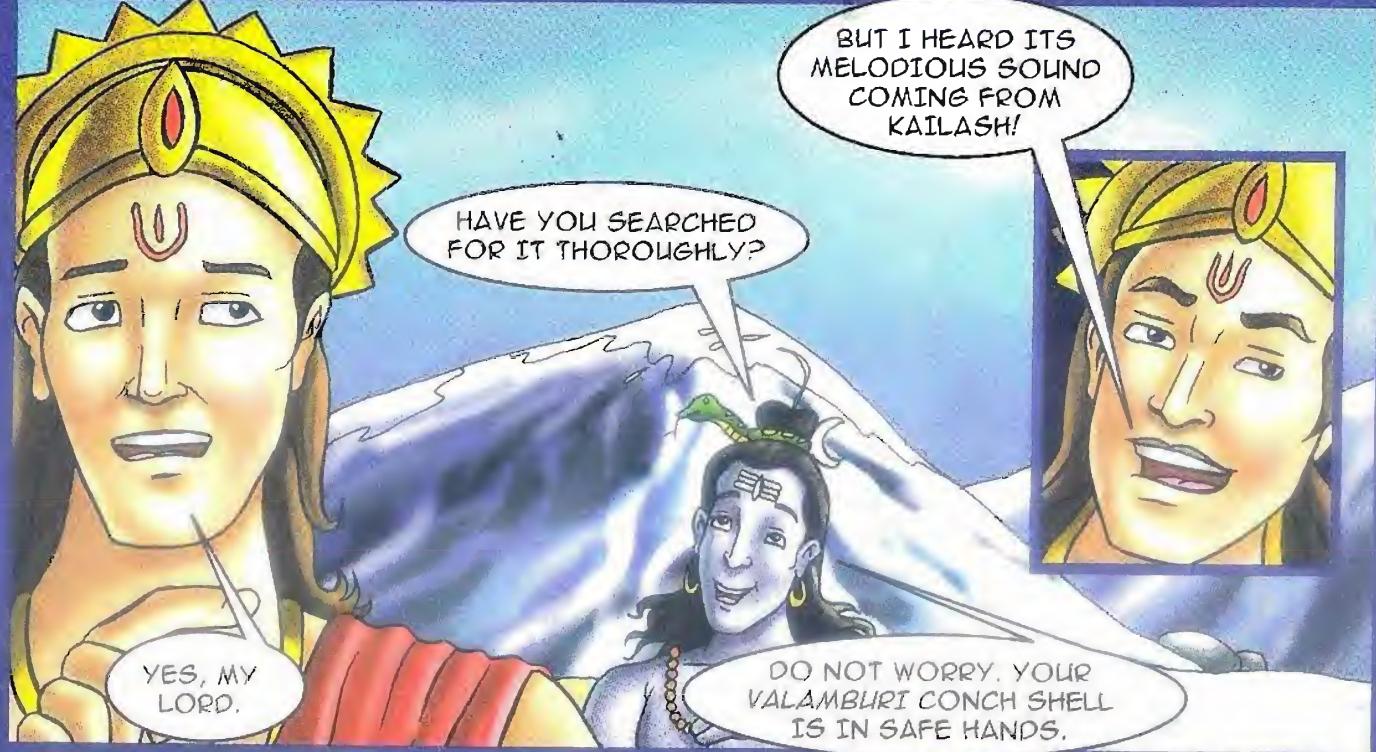
ON REACHING KAILASH...

I WELCOME YOU,
LORD VISHNU, TO
KAILASH. WHAT CAN
I DO FOR YOU?

MY ADULATIONS
LORD!

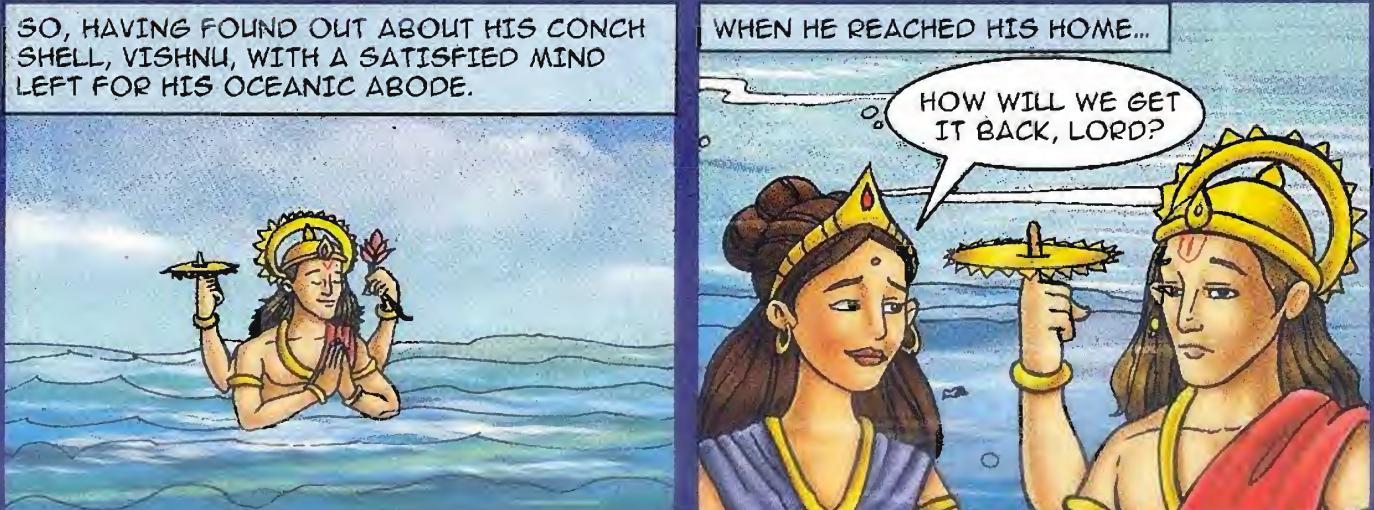
LORD, I HAVE
NOTICED THAT MY
VALAMBURI CONCH
SHELL IS MISSING.

IS IT SO?





SO, HAVING FOUND OUT ABOUT HIS CONCH SHELL, VISHNU, WITH A SATISFIED MIND LEFT FOR HIS OCEANIC ABODE.

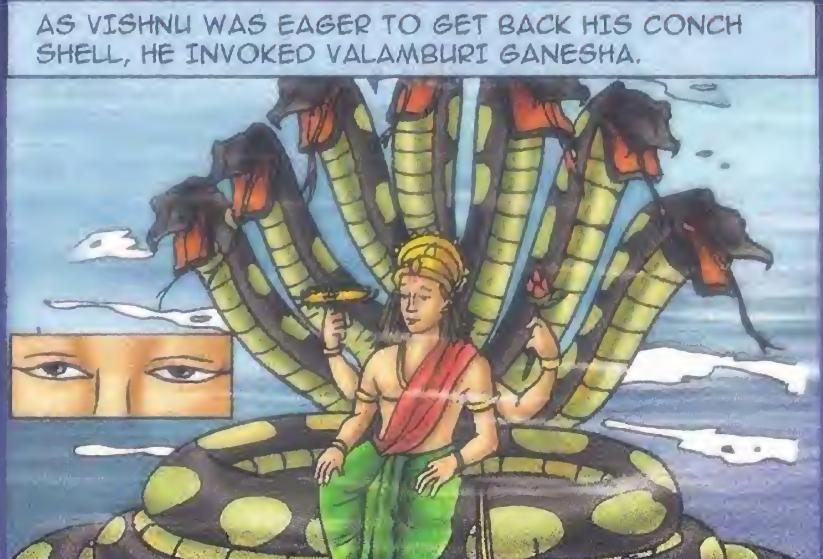
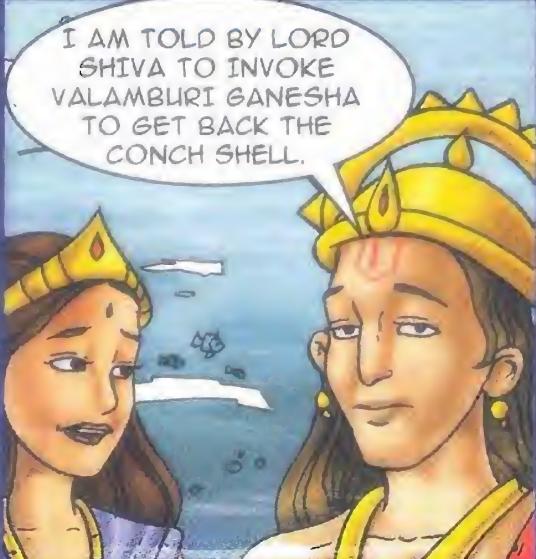


WHEN HE REACHED HIS HOME...



I AM TOLD BY LORD SHIVA TO INVOKE VALAMBURI GANESHA TO GET BACK THE CONCH SHELL.

AS VISHNU WAS EAGER TO GET BACK HIS CONCH SHELL, HE INVOKED VALAMBURI GANESHA.



AFTER A WHILE...

LORD VISHNU, OPEN YOUR EYES. I HAVE COME TO RETURN YOUR VALAMBURI CONCH SHELL.

YOU HAVE COME! I AM GRATEFUL BEYOND WORDS.



THUS, ONCE AGAIN THE SUPREMACY OF GANESHA WAS PROVED TO BE INESCAPABLE.





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